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County Borough of Stockport



ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**



1928



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

County Borough of Stockport

FOR THE YEAR 1928

BY

NICOLAS GEBBIE

M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STOCKPORT :

Swain & Co, Ltd., "Advertiser" Offices, High Street

The following are the Committees for 1928-29 :—

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR ERNEST BARLOW.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR JAMES H. STANSFIELD.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, SAMUEL BREWSTER, AND JOSEPH ROGERSON ;
COUNCILLORS GEO. H. BENNETT, ARTHUR CROSSLEY, THOMAS S. FISH,
ROBERT GREGG, WILLIAM HAMLETT, JOHN T. LORD, JAMES PENNY,
ARTHUR WALKER, AND WALTER F. WILLIAMS.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Aldermen Thomas Allcock, and Samuel Brewster ; Councillors George H.
Bennett, Robert Gregg, and James Penny.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

SANATORIA SUB-COMMITTEE.

AND

VENEREAL DISEASES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Aldermen Thomas Allcock, and Joseph Rogerson ; Councillors Thomas S.
Fish, and Arthur Walker.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

EMERGENCY AND STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors W. Hamlett, J. T. Lord, and
W. F. Williams.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR HELEN HENDERSON.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN HENRY GREEN, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., JOSEPH ROGERSON, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS ERNEST BARLOW, JOHN W. FIDLER, WILLIAM HAMLETT, HENRY PATTEN, J.P., GEORGE PEET, AND ARTHUR WALKER; MRS. N. W. BENNETT, MRS. AGNES N. BUCKLEY, MRS. EVELYN M. MURRAY, MRS. ELIZABETH POTTS, J.P., MRS. MARY A. SKUSE, J.P., AND MISS FLORENCE ROWBOTHAM, J.P.

Meetings—Third Monday in each Month.

MATERNITY HOME SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Helen Henderson.

Vice-Chairman—Alderman John W. Craig.

Councillor J. W. Fidler; Mrs. Agnes N. Buckley, Mrs. Evelyn M. Murray, Mrs. Elizabeth Potts, J.P., and Mrs. Mary A. Skuse, J.P.

Meetings—First Tuesday in each Month.

SUB-COMMITTEE RE DISTRIBUTION OF MILK.

Councillor Helen Henderson.

Councillor John W. Fidler.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR JOHN T. LORD.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS WILLIAM H. CLAYTON, JOHN COUPE, SAMUEL FILDES, GEORGE GILL, HELEN HENDERSON, GEORGE MARPLES, JOSEPH MORTON, DAVID SCOTT-MORTON, WILLIAM STANTON, AND EDWIN WALSH.

Meetings—Second Tuesday in each Month.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals ;
Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer ; Medical Officer to the
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and to the Education
Committee :—

NICOLAS GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis and Venereal
Diseases Officer :—

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Maternity and Child
Welfare Medical Officer :—

JEAN M. MACKINTOSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (commenced duty 3rd Sept.)

Clinical Venereal Diseases Officer (part time) :—

W. J. S. REID, M.A., B.Sc., M.D., M.R.C.P.

Deputy Medical Superintendent, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals :—

JAMES WORTHINGTON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M.

Medical Officer (part-time) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :—

HARRY SLATER, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Analyst (part-time) :—JAMES PORTER SHENTON, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Chief Inspector and Inspector of Foods, &c. :—W. BUTLER. §°

(Died 5th February, 1929).

District Inspectors	}	Also Factory and Workshop Inspector..J. ASHTON§
		.....J. R. BATES
		.....H. PRICE§°
		.....F. MILLS§°
Shops Act Inspector	}	.....P. M. BLOMFIELD§
		and Ambulance Attendant.....A. E. HAMBLET.
Ambulance Driver..	}	(Resigned June 16th, 1928).....J. WEBB
		(Commenced July 16th, 1928).....S. BENHAM
Health Visitors	}	.....Miss K. M. JONES§†a
		.....Miss E. B. SWAN§†‡
		.....Miss E. SNOWDON*†
		(Resigned August 25th, 1928) Miss E. MORLEY*†a
		.....Miss L. M. DREW*†a
		.....Miss A. N. STUBBS*†
		.....Mrs. E. HOLLAND†‡
		.....Miss M. BILLINGS*†
		for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases..Miss M. M.
		SMITH*†
	}	(Temporary from Aug. 27th, 1928). Mrs. S. SURRELL*†
		.. .. Oct. 1st, 1928). Miss A. SPARROW*†
Matron, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals...		Miss T. P. CRANMORE
Matron, Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital.....		Miss B. L. SCOTT
Deputy Matron, Isolation Hospital.....		Miss K. RICHARDSON
Deputy Matron, Tuberculosis Hospital.....		Miss E. E. WILSON
Clerical Staff	}	.....H. BAILEY
		.....A. ROWLAND, A.C.I.S.
		(Resigned December 1st, 1928).....E. KELLY
		(Appointed November 26th).....H. HOLDEN
		(At Dispensary).....Mrs. F. STEAD
V.D. Orderly (part-time).....	}	.....Miss A. B. BELLERBY
		.....W. E. LEES

§ Certificate, Inspector of Nuisances.

• Certificate, Meat and Other Foods.

* Certificate of General Training.

† Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

‡ Certificate (old) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

a Certificate (new) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Stockport.



MR. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS. HENDERSON, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report, an Ordinary Report of the series, upon the Health, Sanitary Circumstances, and Vital Statistics of the County Borough of Stockport for the year 1928. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and records in considerable detail the work of the Health Department, and of the various services ancillary thereto.

The Report is again divided into five parts, to facilitate reference, viz. :—

- Part I. Health and Housing.
- „ II. Infectious Diseases.
- „ III. Tuberculosis.
- „ IV. Venereal Diseases.
- „ V. Maternity and Child Welfare.

The estimated population given by the Registrar General for the middle of 1928 is 127,600, being an increase of 2,400 on the corresponding figure for 1927.

The Birth-rate, viz., 14.32 per 1,000 of the population, remains low.

The general Death-rate of 12.79 per 1,000 of the population shows a slight increase on the rate for 1927, viz., 12.54 per 1,000.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 77.2 per 1,000 Births registered is highly satisfactory.

As regards the occurrence of Infectious Diseases the most noteworthy feature during 1928 was the marked decline in the number of Scarlet Fever Cases notified :—840 in 1926 ; 545 in 1927 ; and 265 in 1928.

Smallpox broke out in the Guardians Institutions at Stepping Hill and Shaw Heath in the first quarter of the year. The cases were of mild type and numbered 11 in all. Measures of isolation, disinfection, vaccination, etc., were promptly taken, and the epidemic was soon brought under control. Your officers are deeply indebted to Mr. H. Barlow, Clerk to the Guardians, and to Drs. Smith and Dutton for their prompt and efficient assistance in dealing with the outbreak.

During the year under review the work of the Department has proceeded effectively yet unobtrusively on sound scientific lines. Generally we have concentrated upon consolidating and extending existing services. Staff changes have been few. The appointment, during the year, of an Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, has enabled your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee effectively to put in operation their policy of an extended service for the mothers and babies in our town. That policy must in time have a far-reaching effect for the good of the community. It is to an extension of our Child Welfare, etc., services that we look for improvement in the health of our School children, and eventually for attainment of a higher standard of physical and mental fitness in our adult population.

This Report bears witness to the magnitude of the task undertaken by your Public Health Committee and its Health Department in safeguarding the public health.

The successful results herein recorded would have been impossible of attainment without that zeal, enthusiasm and loyalty which all members of the Staff have unreservedly given to your Medical Officer of Health, and which are warmly acknowledged. I would take this opportunity of thanking the Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen, and Members of the various Committees for the kindness and confidence which they have extended to me.

It is with the greatest personal regret that I have to refer to the loss the Department has sustained in the death of Superintendent and Chief Inspector Butler which took place with tragic suddenness on 5th February, 1929. His great natural gifts, his ripe experience and his ready help were ever at the disposal of his colleagues and of the general public, and we all mourn the loss of an able official and a true friend.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Stockport.
April, 1929.

County Borough of Stockport.

1928.

Statistical Memoranda.

	Stockport.	England and Wales.	107 County Boroughs & Great Towns.	156 Smaller Towns.
Population (Census 1921).....	123,315	—	—	—
Estimated Population, Mid-year, 1928.....	127,600	—	—	—
Area in Acres.....	7,059	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000.....	14.32	16.7	16.9	16.6
Do., do., average for five years, 1923-1927.....	16.25	—	—	—
General Death Rate per 1,000.....	12.79	11.7	11.6	10.6
Do., do., average for five years, 1923-1927.....	13.16	—	—	—
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	77.2	65	70	60
Do., do., average for five years, 1923-1927.....	87	—	—	—
Death Rate from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.....	0.31	—	—	—
Death Rate from Phthisis (Pul- monary Consumption).....	0.70	—	—	—
Death Rate from all other Tuber- cular Diseases.....	0.14	—	—	—

All the rates are calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1928.

Rateable Value (1928).....	£820,237
Sum represented by a penny rate for Borough Rate purposes (estimated 1928).....	£3,079
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	29,765
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)..	30,225

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Births : Legitimate...	1756	924	832	} Birth-rate, 14.32
Illegitimate..	71	40	31	
Deaths.....	1632	815	817	Death-rate, 12.79

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth :—

From sepsis.....	3
From other causes.....	8

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate 76.9.	Illegitimate 84.5.	Total 77.2.
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Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	15
„ Whooping Cough (all ages).....	13
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....	1

PART I.

Health and Housing.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The rivers Goyt and Tame unite at Tiviot Dale to form the river Mersey and the Borough is situated on both the Lancashire and Cheshire sides of this river. In the immediate vicinity of the Mersey stands the old part of Stockport around which there has grown a large industrial city. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Doubling, Hat Manufacture, Engineering, Brewing, Jam Making, Confectionery and allied trades.

For the most part the people are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in long rows. Dwellings of this type are universal in the industrial areas of the North of England and are the result of the rapid rise of Industrialism which occurred some sixty years ago. The lack of adequate town-planning schemes in those early days of the town's growth and development is responsible for many of the defects which are apparent to-day. In the older parts of the town factories and dwellinghouses are in close proximity to each other and over the central area of the town there hangs a cloud of smoke from industrial and domestic chimneys.

Stockport, however, has many amenities. It is well provided with residential areas and with open spaces and playing fields. Its facilities for rail and road transport are good. Sites are available for new works and for extension of existing factories, and the rates levied in the town are comparatively low.

The industries of the area are so many and varied that one is unable to single out any particular industrial process as having a marked effect on the health of the inhabitants as a whole.

The population of Stockport at the 1921 Census was 123,315, a figure which was subsequently amended to 125,500.

The population at the middle of 1928, as estimated by the Registrar-General, is 127,600.

The Census figures on the last five occasions were as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
1881.....	59,553
1891.....	70,263
1901.....	78,897
1911.....	108,693
1921.....	123,315

The area of the Borough is 7,059 acres, and the density of population, as calculated on the estimate of the total population, is 18.08 persons per acre, varying from 97.45 in St. Thomas's Ward to 7.02 in Heaton Norris South Ward.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand of the population
and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of Registered Births,
for the past 26 years (1903 -1928)



Birth-rate Indicated by Black lines.
Infant Mortality Rate indicated by Red lines.

The number of new houses completed during the year 1928 was 332.

The number of houses in course of building at the end of the year was 228.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of new houses completed.</i>
1919.....	—
1920.....	24
1921.....	131
1922.....	71
1923.....	176
1924.....	241
1925.....	405
1926.....	335
1927.....	330
1928.....	332

The following table shows the distribution and density of the population in the various districts :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>	<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>
Lancashire Hill.	145	5690	39.24	St. Thomas's...	53	5165	97.45
Heaton Lane....	234	6210	26.54	Hempshaw L'ne	146	5570	38.15
Old Road.....	114	5860	51.40	Cale Green.....	145	6315	43.55
Portwood.....	324	8060	24.88	Heaviley.....	1115	12120	10.87
St. Mary's.....	91	2920	32.09	Reddish North.	786	9800	12.47
Vernon.....	427	6550	15.34	Reddish South.	755	6200	8.21
Spring Bank...	81	4230	52.22	Heaton Nor's N	711	5200	7.31
Hollywood.....	346	9255	26.46	Heaton Nor's S	863	6060	7.02
Edgeley.....	331	11570	34.92				
Shaw Heath....	392	10825	27.61	Whole Borough	7059	127600	18.08

Births.

The corrected number of births registered in the Borough during the year was 1,827, of which 964 were males and 863 females.

The birth-rate per thousand of the population was equal to 14.32, which is a slight decrease on the rate of last year.

The highest birth-rate occurred in St. Thomas's Ward, namely, 22.07, while the lowest recorded was in Heaton Norris North Ward, namely, 8.46.

Illegitimacy.

During the year there were 71 illegitimate births registered belonging to the Borough, as compared with 85 in 1927. This gives an illegitimate birth-rate of 38.86 per thousand births registered, as compared with 46.32 in 1927.

The infantile mortality rate amongst illegitimate children is 84.5 per thousand illegitimate births.

The following table shows the comparison between the death-rates of illegitimate children and others registered in the Borough during the past ten years :—

Year	Esti- mated popula- tion.	Births.		Illegitimate. Births.		Total deaths under 1 year of age	Infan- tile mor- tality per 1000 births.	Deaths of illegiti- mates under 1 year of age.	Illegiti- mate infantile mortality per 1000 illegiti- mate births.
		Legit- imate	Illegit- imate	to 1000 living	to 1000 births				
1919	130868	1847	123	0.94	62.44	194	98.5	22	178.8
1920	130635	2763	138	1.05	47.57	282	97.2	26	188.4
1921	125500	2435	129	1.03	50.31	233	90.8	18	139.5
1922	125800	2087	104	0.83	47.47	168	76.7	10	96.2
1923	125700	2121	95	0.76	42.87	203	91.6	25	263.2
1924	126000	1969	94	0.75	45.56	180	87.3	11	117.0
1925	125900	1975	104	0.83	50.02	202	97.2	20	192.3
1926	125400	1926	88	0.70	43.69	165	81.9	14	159.1
1927	125200	1750	85	0.68	46.32	142	77.4	7	82.4
1928	127600	1756	71	0.56	38.86	141	77.2	6	84.5

Marriages.

The number of marriages solemnised during the year 1928 was 1087 or 60 more than in 1927. The marriage-rate per thousand persons living being 17.04. This figure is higher than the rate for the country generally, which was 15.3.

Of the 1087 marriages 569 were solemnised according to the rites of the Established Church, 116 under Roman Catholic rites, 2 at the Jewish Synagogue, 194 according to the rites of other religious denominations, and 206 at the Registrar's Office.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Marriages.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Living.</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales.</i>
1919	1345	20.6	19.7
1920	1464	22.4	20.2
1921	1165	18.6	16.9
1922	1079	17.2	15.8
1923	1008	16.0	18.0
1924	1094	17.4	15.3
1925	1050	16.7	15.2
1926	936	14.9	14.3
1927	1027	16.4	15.7
1928	1087	17.0	15.3

Deaths.

The corrected number of deaths recorded in the Borough during the year 1928 was 1,632, namely :—815 males and 817 females.

The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population was 12.79.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING LAST DECENNIUM.

Herein are set out some of the principal causes of death in the Borough for the past ten years :—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>									
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
<i>Seven Chief Zymotics...</i>	40	115	66	67	44	64	62	50	32	39
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Scarlet Fever.....	6	7	5	4	1	5	6	7	5	2
Diphtheria.....	9	30	20	18	14	5	3	7	6	5
“Fevers”—Typhoid and Continued....	3	2	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	2
Measles.....	1	41	1	19	9	42	4	25	7	15
Whooping Cough....	8	25	9	22	12	6	41	5	6	13
Diarrhoea.....	13	10	28	3	8	4	8	6	7	2
Influenza.....	124	23	20	53	20	33	19	25	39	19
Lung Diseases (includ- ing Phthisis).....	563	483	413	527	481	559	501	391	373	444
Heart Disease.....	300	296	324	364	367	374	400	420	373	359
Injury.....	48	45	35	30	31	43	58	33	44	38

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF VITAL AND MORTAL
STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	No. of Deaths.
Lung Diseases (excluding Phthisis).....	355
Phthisis.....	89
Other Tubercular Diseases.....	18
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart, &c.).....	359
„ Nervous System.....	93
„ Digestive System.....	64
„ Kidneys.....	92
Debility and Wasting, etc., in Infants.....	15
Old Age.....	67
Cancer.....	221
Accidents.....	38
Suicides.....	20
All other Diseases.....	201

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Nett Death-rate.</i>	<i>Zymotic Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
1909	26.33	17.96	1.73	132
1910	25.60	17.03	1.63	137
1911	23.33	17.38	2.73	172
1912	22.75	16.02	1.42	109
1913	23.17	16.64	1.85	146
1914	21.64	15.10	1.18	124
1915	19.32	16.69	1.59	127
1916	17.66	15.42	1.49	121
1917	15.17	13.18	0.54	96
1918	13.84	18.29	0.69	112
1919	15.05	13.33	0.32	98
1920	22.20	12.87	0.88	97
1921	20.43	12.16	0.53	91
1922	17.42	13.37	0.53	77
1923	17.63	12.66	0.35	92
1924	16.37	13.86	0.51	87
1925	16.51	13.94	0.49	97
1926	16.06	12.78	0.40	82
1927	14.66	12.54	0.26	77
1928	14.32	12.79	0.31	77

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests.

During the year there were 151 deaths registered in the Borough in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. In 146 of these cases an inquest was held, and the verdicts found by the Coroner's juries may be summarised as follows :—

1.—NATURAL CAUSES.

Heart Disease.....	17	Pneumonia.....	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	2	Cerebral Meningitis.....	1
Nephritis.....	14	Inanition.....	1
Scarlet Fever	1	Convulsions.....	1
Phthisis.....	1	Prematurity	4
Bronchitis	2	Other Natural Causes.....	9

2.—BY ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.

In Vehicular Traffic.....	27	Fractures.....	16
By Drowning.....	2	Gas Poisoning	2
Burns and Scalds.....	7	Other Injuries.....	8
Falls	5		

3.—SUICIDE.

By Hanging and Strangulation.....	4	By Gas Poisoning.....	4
„ Cut or Stab.....	3	„ Poison.....	3
„ Drowning.....	5	„ Precipitation from Elevated Places.....	1
„ Railway	1		

Vital Statistics of whole Borough during 1928, and previous years.—Name of District, STOCKPORT.

YEAR.	Total Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.			NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	6	7	8	9	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.							Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1919	130,868	1956	1970	15.05	1694	13.48	111	92	194	98	1675	13.33		
1920	130,635	2888	2901	22.20	1680	12.86	101	102	282	97	1681	12.87		
1921	125,500	2558	2564	20.43	1548	12.33	91	39	233	91	1526	12.16		
1922	125,800	2195	2191	17.42	1687	13.41	85	80	168	77	1682	13.37		
1923	125,700	2206	2216	17.63	1639	13.04	139	91	203	92	1591	12.66		
1924	126,000	2056	2063	16.37	1791	14.21	134	89	180	87	1746	13.86		
1925	125,900	2074	2079	16.51	1805	14.43	152	91	202	97	1744	13.94		
1926	125,400	2019	2014	16.06	1660	13.24	161	103	165	82	1602	12.78		
1927	125,200	1863	1835	14.66	1650	13.18	175	95	142	77	1570	12.54		
1928	127,600	1854	1827	14.32	1733	13.58	199	98	140	77	1632	12.79		

Total population at all ages, 125,500 at Census of 1921. Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 7,059

Private families or separate occupiers, 30,225, at Census of 1921.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH AND EACH OF ITS WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1928.

WARD	Acreage.	Estimated Population.	Persons per acre.	No. of Births registered.	Birth rate.	Nett deaths *	Nett Death rate.	No. of de'ths under 1 year of age *	Infant mortality rate per 1000 births.	No. of de'ths from 7 principal Zymotic diseases†	Zymotic Death rate per 1000.	Zymotic death rate per 1000 (excluding Diarrhoea)	No. of de'ths from Diarrhoea. *	Death rate from Diarrhoea per 1000.	No. of de'ths from P'thisis. *	Death rate from Phthisis per 1000.	No. of de'ths from other Tubercular diseases *	Death rate from other Tubercular diseases per 1000.	No. of de'ths from Other Lung Diseases. *	Death rate from Other Lung Diseases per 1000.
LANCASHIRE HILL	145	5,690	39·24	M. 42 F. 43 85	14·94	67	11·77	3	35	...	...	...	...	...	3	0·53	...	...	15	2·63
HEATON LANE	234	6,210	26·54	52 54 106	17·07	90	14·49	6	57	2	0·32	...	...	...	10	1·61	...	...	17	2·74
OLD ROAD	114	5,860	51·40	50 52 102	17·41	81	13·82	3	30	3	0·51	0·51	...	...	4	0·68	1	0·17	20	3·41
PORTWOOD	324	8,060	24·88	80 88 168	20·84	105	13·03	15	89	8	1·0	1·0	...	...	7	0·87	1	0·12	23	2·85
ST. MARY'S	91	2,920	32·09	25 27 52	17·81	49	16·78	5	96	2	0·68	0·68	...	...	3	1·03	1	0·34	16	5·48
VERNON	427	6,550	15·34	50 48 98	14·96	76	11·60	8	82	1	0·15	0·15	...	...	5	0·76	1	0·15	19	2·90
SPRING BANK	81	4,230	52·22	52 40 92	21·75	82	19·39	11	120	5	1·18	1·18	...	...	5	1·18	2	0·47	20	4·73
HOLLYWOOD...	346	9,255	26·46	78 50 128	13·83	116	12·53	12	94	...	...	...	...	...	10	1·08	2	0·22	22	2·38
EDGELEY	331	11,570	34·92	65 52 117	10·11	137	11·84	6	51	2	0·17	0·17	...	...	3	0·26	1	0·09	37	3·20
SHAW HEATH	392	10,825	27·61	65 60 125	11·55	116	10·72	9	72	3	0·28	0·28	...	...	7	0·65	1	0·09	22	2·03
ST. THOMAS'S	58	5,165	97·45	60 54 114	22·07	64	12·39	14	123	4	0·77	0·58	1	0·19	2	0·39	1	0·19	12	2·32
HEMPSHAW LANE	146	5,570	38·15	55 30 85	15·26	87	15·62	11	130	2	0·36	0·36	...	...	3	0·54	...	...	25	4·49
CALE GREEN	145	6,315	43·55	35 30 65	10·29	83	13·30	5	77	...	...	...	...	...	2	0·32	1	0·16	22	3·48
HEAVILEY	1115	12,120	10·87	90 70 160	10·32	153	9·49	7	44	1	0·08	0·08	...	...	13	1·07	2	0·17	23	1·90
REDDISH NORTH...	786	9,800	12·47	77 58 135	13·78	105	10·71	14	104	3	0·31	0·31	...	...	1	0·10	1	0·10	21	2·14
REDDISH SOUTH...	755	6,200	8·21	45 48 93	15·00	73	11·77	6	65	1	0·16	0·16	...	...	4	0·65	3	0·48	18	2·90
HEATON NORRIS N.	711	5,200	7·31	20 24 44	8·46	73	14·04	1	28	...	...	...	...	...	2	0·38	...	...	10	1·90
HEATON NORRIS S.	863	6,060	7·02	23 35 58	9·57	75	12·38	5	86	2	0·33	0·17	1	0·17	5	0·83	...	...	13	2·13
STOCKPORT BOROUGH	7059	127600	18·08	964 863 1827	14·32	M 815 F 817 1632	12·79	M 81 F 60 141	77·18	M 17 F 22 39	0·31	0·29	M 1 F 1 2	0·02	M 51 F 38 89	0·70	M 11 F 7 18	0·14	M 182 F 173 355	2·78

* Deaths of Stockport residents in the Union Hospital, Union Workhouse, Infirmary, and Isolation Hospital are here referred to the Wards in which they lived. Deaths within the Borough of Non-residents from out-townships are excluded.

† The "Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases" are Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid and continued), and Diarrhoea. ‡ Registrar General's estimate.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mortality Statistics.

The Corrected Nett Death-Rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.79 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The principal causes of death during 1928 were diseases of the Circulatory System (Heart, etc.), diseases of the Lungs and Cancer. Climatic conditions undoubtedly play an important part in causing the high incidence rate of chest diseases which obtains locally. Long spells of cold and damp weather, and the pollution of the atmosphere by smoke and by other products of the incomplete combustion of raw coal, reduce our powers of resistance to infection and render us susceptible to attacks of such diseases as Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia, and Rheumatism.

Diseases of the Respiratory System, e.g., Bronchitis and Broncho-pneumonia are of frequent occurrence as complications of such diseases as Measles and Whooping Cough and are of grave import. In the industrial centres of the North of England, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Heart Disease may well be ranked with Phthisis as the "Captains of the men of Death."

Cancer continues to exact a heavy toll in human suffering and misery and, in Stockport in 1928, 221 deaths were ascribed to it. Of these 221 fatal cases, 93 were males and 128 females. The age incidence of the cases was as follows :—

Years.	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over.
Number	—	3	11	32	82	93

The situation of the lesion in these cases may be summarised thus :—

Cancer of Mouth and Digestive System.....	140 Cases.
„ Female Genital Organs.....	23 „
„ Breast.....	19 „
„ Skin.....	4 „
„ Other Organs.....	35 „
Total.....	221 „

The death-rate from Cancer in 1928 was 1.73 per thousand of the population as compared with 1.58 for the year 1927.

Cancer essentially affects individuals beyond middle-life and in one or other of its many forms may attack almost any organ of the body.

In spite of careful scientific investigation and painstaking research conducted in many lands the cause of Cancer still remains obscure. If detected early it is curable by surgical measures, but in what is often at first a painless disease it is difficult for the patient to realise the necessity for surgical aid.

From time to time circulars are issued by the Ministry of Health in which the position with regard to research work into the cause, etc., of Cancer is reviewed. There is an urgent need for further research into the cause, or causes of Cancer, into its effects upon human life, and into the all important question of its prevention or cure. Funds are needed for this purpose and the work of collecting the necessary money throughout this area has been undertaken by the Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales Council of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

His Worship the Mayor of Stockport, Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P., is taking a keen personal interest in this work and, at his request, a local Cancer Campaign Fund Committee is being set up. The nucleus of this Committee consists of the following members of the Health Committee, viz., Alderman J. Rogerson, Councillors E. Barlow, J. H. Stansfield, G. H. Bennett, T. S. Fish, R. Gregg, and J. Penny, together with Councillor H. Patten, J.P., as His Worship the Mayor's representative upon the Committee. Mr. Henshall, the Borough Treasurer, has kindly consented to act as Honorary Treasurer to the Fund, and Dr. Gebbie, Medical Officer of Health, is Honorary Secretary to the local Committee.

It is proposed to co-opt representatives of the various Religious, Social, Philanthropic and Industrial interests in the town upon the local Committee to ensure that everyone will have the opportunity to give practical help towards the control and prevention of that dire disease Cancer.

The Committee feels confident that when the Mayor's Appeal is made the response of the citizens will be generous and worthy of our town.

Mortality in Different Wards.

The Corrected Nett Death-rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.79 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The highest Ward Death-rate occurred in Spring Bank Ward, namely, 19.39, whilst the lowest was recorded in Heaviley Ward with 9.49.

The Zymotic Death-rate for the whole Borough was 0.31. This Rate is calculated on the number of deaths from the following diseases :— Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Typhoid Fever, and Diarrhoea, and the total number of deaths from these diseases was 39.

Phthisis Death-rate. The Death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis or consumption of the lungs, for the whole of the Borough, was 0.70 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.62 for 1927, and the total number of deaths recorded was 89, as compared with 77 for 1927, 70 for 1926, 104 for 1925, 110 for 1924, and 119 for 1923.

The highest Death-rate occurred in Heaton Lane Ward, namely, 1.61 per 1,000 of the population.

Registrar General's Return of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life in the County Borough of Stockport.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	AGE PERIODS.									
			0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—	
ALL CAUSES.....	M. F	814 817	81 60	16 12	13 13	25 15	33 30	95 97	264 209	178 198	109 183	
1. Enteric Fever.....	M. F	.. 2	..	..	..	..	..	.. 1	.. 1	..	..
2. Small-pox.....	M. F	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Measles.....	M F.	.. 8	.. 4	.. 2	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Scarlet Fever.....	M. F.	7	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough.....	M. F.	.. 2	..	..	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Diphtheria.....	M. F.	6	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Influenza.....	M. F.	8	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Encephalitis Lethargica.....	M. F.	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Meningococcal Meningitis.....	M. F.	3	..	2	.. 1	..	..	.. 2	.. 7	.. 1	.. 1
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	M. F.	19	..	..	.. 1	..	..	.. 5	.. 7	.. 2	.. 1
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	M. F.	18	..	..	..	3	..	.. 3	.. 1	..	..
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease.....	M. F.	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Rheumatic Fever.....	M. F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Diabetes.....	M. F	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		51	2	..	..	..	..	18	14	2	..
		38	..	..	..	..	..	18	6	1	..
		11	4	2	1	..	2	2	1	..	..
		7	..	2	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	
		92	..	..	..	..	..	2	50	32	8
		129	..	..	..	..	..	13	64	35	17
		1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
		
		11	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	2
		8	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	1

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT—Continued.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.....	M. F.	18 46	..	..	..	..	..	1	9	6	2
16. Heart Disease.....	M. F.	127 145	..	..	..	1	1	2 14	14 53	17 40	12 18
17. Arterio-sclerosis.....	M. F.	92	..	..	..	..	2	2	41	49	44
18. Bronchitis.....	M. F.	79 42	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	31	32
19. Pneumonia (all forms).....	M. F.	48 62	8	1	..	1	..	3	16	24	38
20. Other Respiratory Diseases.....	M. F.	47 13	13	4	5	5	2	11	10	13	7
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.....	M. F.	5	1	3	2	3	3	7	6	14	3
22. Diarrhoea, &c.....	M. F.	11 4	2	..	..	..	..	3	6	1	1
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis.....	M. F.	8 2	3	1	..	7	..	1	1	1	1
24. Cirrhosis of Liver.....	M. F.	5 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis.....	M. F.	38 42	..	..	..	1	..	1	4	10	7
26. Puerperal Sepsis.....	M. F.	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	7	10	15
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition.....	M. F.	4 5	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth.....	M. F.	28 32	27	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
29. Suicide.....	M. F.	12 8	32	..	..	..	1	3	5	2	1
30. Other deaths from violence.....	M. F.	26 9	..	1	..	3	1	3	4	2	3
31. Other defined diseases.....	M. F.	115 109	15	2	1	1	6	3	2	24	2
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown.....	M. F.	1 ..	7	5	2	2	3	15	28	18	23
			..	..	..	..	..	21	22	1	29
		

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.														
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	& over	
XIV.	DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM :—																	
	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	1
	8	3	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	8	4	12	7	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	2
	7	2	9	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	4	9	13	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7
	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..
	5	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4
	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
XV.	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..
	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
XVI.	DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM :—																	
	11	22	33	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	1	5	6	3	12	12
	39	20	59	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	7	12	36	36
	5	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	6	6
	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
XVII.	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
XVIII.	DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH CHILD-BIRTH :—																	
	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over	
				-1													
XVIII. Diseases of Osseous System.....	4	1	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
XIX. Eczema	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Pemphigus.....	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XX. ACCIDENTS :—																	
In Vehicular Traffic.....	13	1	14	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	3	1	..	..	4	..
By Weapons and Implements	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Burns and Scalds.....	2	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Poison—Gas .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
“ —Other.....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Drowning.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Falls from a height.....	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Falls, otherwise.....	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	6
Other Accidents.....	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1
XXI. SUICIDES :—																	
By Poison—Gas.....	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	..
“ —Other.....	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..
By Hanging and Strangulation...	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..
By Drowning.....	3	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	1	..
By Cut or Stab.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
By Precipitation from Elevated Places .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XXII. All other Diseases.....	2	5	7	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..
Totals.....	815	817	1632	141	28	13	6	7	24	16	21	44	78	113	185	288	668

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority.

A. (1)—**Fever Hospital.**—Your Council maintains the Borough Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport, at which there is accommodation for 78 patients suffering from Acute Infectious Disease. During the year under review the accommodation at your Isolation Hospital was not so heavily taxed as in 1926.

(2)—**Smallpox Hospital.**—Your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Borough Smallpox Hospital. In the event of a serious epidemic of Smallpox in Stockport, it would be necessary to utilise Whitehill Hospital for the purpose of isolating cases of this disease. At Whitehill Hospital there is normally accommodation for twenty-six patients.

B. (1) **Tuberculosis.**—At Whitehill Hospital your Council provides, with the consent of the Ministry of Health, accommodation for 26 cases of Tuberculosis (of both sexes). This institution is utilised mainly for the treatment of advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Institutional provision for Tuberculosis cases is secured for Stockport patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria elsewhere as follows :—

- (a) Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Burntwood—16 beds.
- (b) Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands—10 beds.
- (c) Wensleydale Sanatorium, Aysgarth, Yorkshire—7 beds.
- (d) Barrowmore Hall Training Colony, Chester. } For Ex-Servicemen
- (e) Preston Hall Training Colony, Kent. } as required.
- (f) Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry—3 beds.
- (g) Special School, West Kirby (George Fearn Trust)—1 bed.
- (h) Ormerod Home, St. Annes-on-Sea (pre-tubercular children)—15 beds.

The last mentioned is under the administration of the George Fearn Trust to which the Corporation subscribe the sum of £150 per annum.

A certain number of cases of Tuberculosis are treated by the Board of Guardians at their Institution at Stepping Hill Hospital.

Cases of tuberculosis of the skin are treated at the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases under arrangements made by the Corporation with the Hospital Board.

B. (2) **Maternity.**—Your Council maintains the Municipal Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall, Stockport, with accommodation for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

Accommodation is provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians for maternity cases in a wing of the Board's Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

(3) **Children.**—There is no Hospital within the area of the County Borough of Stockport used exclusively for children.

(4) Other.

- (a) The Stockport Infirmary provides accommodation for 130 Medical and Surgical cases and has a well equipped and adequately staffed Out-Patient Department, with Specialist Services in the various branches of medical and surgical work.
- (b) The Poor Law Infirmary, Stepping Hill, Stockport, is maintained by the Stockport Board of Guardians and provides 450 beds for the reception and treatment of cases sent by the Union's Medical Officers.
- (c) Six privately owned Maternity Homes are registered with the Local Authority—total accommodation 33 beds.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, &c.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.—This Home, which is situated in Chatham Street, Stockport, deals with unmarried mothers and others who are brought to the notice of the officers of the Institution either by the Poor Law Authorities or by intimation from private sources.

STOCKPORT POLICE AID ASSOCIATION.—The object of this Association is to provide necessitous children with clothing. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have placed at the Association's disposal the Great Portwood Street Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which is used occasionally for the storage and the distribution of the clothing.

BARNES' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The situation of this Industrial School for Boys is in the Heaton Mersey portion of the Borough.

ALICE BRIGGS HOME (OPEN-AIR SCHOOL).—This Home, which is in close proximity to the Barnes' Home Industrial School, is entirely under the control of the Manchester Corporation.

COTTAGE HOMES.—Various homes for destitute children are provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians.

Ambulance Arrangements.

The Borough is well provided with ambulances, the Corporation having at their disposal six motor ambulances, and the Stockport Board of Guardians one motor ambulance.

FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—During 1927 the Corporation purchased a new 20-H.P. Austin motor ambulance for infectious cases, and there are now three motor ambulances stationed at the Isolation Hospital and used exclusively for the removal of infectious cases and bedding.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENT CASES.—The three other Corporation ambulances are stationed at the Fire Station and are available for accident cases and for the removal of patients to Hospital in emergencies. In the latter cases a fee is charged which can be remitted with the sanction of the Watch Committee if the patient be in necessitous

circumstances. The motor ambulance provided by the Poor Law Authorities is used in connection with the conveyance of patients to the Stepping Hill Poor Law Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<i>Name and Situation.</i>	<i>By Whom Provided.</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.	Town Council.
Ante-natal Clinic, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.....	Stockport School } for Mothers & } by Town Babies' Welcome. } Council from Churchgate House, Stockport..... } 1st October, Branch : Stanhope Street, Reddish.. } 1928.
Central School Clinic, 108, Wellington Road South, Stockport.....	
Branch Clinic at Reddish.....	
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	„
Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	„

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association.

(President, Sir Thomas Rowbotham, J.P.).

The Headquarters of the District Nursing Department of this Association known as the Barnsley Home for Nurses, is situated in Greek Street, Stockport. The Staff consists of a Matron and seven Nurses. The nursing of all classes of sickness is undertaken with the exception of certain cases of infectious disease, i.e., Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, etc. Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Committee of the Association for the provision of home nursing facilities in cases of Measles, Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pemphigus Neonatorum on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. For this purpose your Council made a financial grant of 50 guineas during the year under review.

Arrangements have been made with the Stockport Insurance Committee for the nursing of sick insured persons approved of by the Committee at a rate of 1/- per visit.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Matron of the Barnsley Home for her kindly consideration at all times and for her promptitude in attending to the cases referred to her by this Department. The excellent work carried out in the homes of the people by the members of the Local District Nursing Association is of inestimable value to the patients and is much appreciated by the Doctors in the town.

In connection with the Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association there is the Annie Walthew Nursing Home, Meadow Bank, Didsbury Road, Stockport, in which there is accommodation for Maternity, Surgical, and Medical Cases. Your Medical Officer of Health has the honour to be a member of the Sub-Committee responsible for the management of this Home.

Midwives. Full particulars of the arrangements of the District Midwifery Service are given in the section of the report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Chemical Work. The Public Analyst for Stockport is Mr. James P. Shenton, and details of the results of his analyses are given in tabular form in the section of this report dealing with Food and Drugs.

Local Powers Relating to Public Health.

(1) Acts of Parliament adopted by the Council.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Housing of the Working-Classes Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
 Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907.

(2) Local Acts.

Stockport Corporation Act, 1899.
 Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.

(3) Byelaws.

Regulation of Markets, 1862.
 Prevention of Nuisances, 1865.
 Cleansing Footways, Privies, &c., 1865.
 Regulation of Public Baths, 1886.
 Common Lodging Houses, 1900.
 Houses Let in Lodgings, 1900.
 Tents, Vans, &c., used for Human Habitation, 1902.
 For the good rule and government of the Borough, and for the
 Prevention of Nuisances, 1903.
 Slaughter Houses, 1906.
 New Streets and Buildings, 1913.
 Water, 1915.
 Maternity Homes, 1926.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The Stockport Water Area covers about $80\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and has a population of 202,640. The average daily consumption of water for this area during 1928 was 6,531,000 gallons. The water was analysed at intervals and was found to be satisfactory.

During the year under review there was no material change in the sources of supply, particulars of which are as follows :—

<i>Site.</i>		<i>Reservoir.</i>		<i>Capacity.</i>
Disley	..	Horse Coppice Reservoir	..	73,000,000 gallons
„	..	Bollinhurst Reservoir	..	84,500,000 „
Hayfield	..	Kinder Reservoir	..	515,500,000 „
Wilmslow	..	Two Boreholes	..	Supply 750,000 „ per day.

By agreement a total quantity of about 1,500,000 gallons of water per day is available from the Manchester Corporation Longdendale Works.

Rivers and Streams. During the year a few instances of pollution of rivers and streams have been discovered by the Inspectors during the course of their routine work and the necessary action has been taken to have the defects remedied. During the year several complaints as to pollution of the Tin Brook with sewage, trade effluents, etc., have been investigated. The necessary action is being taken by the officials of the Corporation with the individuals and firms concerned and it is hoped that considerable improvement in the condition of this brook will be secured in the very near future.

Drainage and Sewerage. The routine work of extension of drainage and sewerage rendered necessary by the erection of new houses has been proceeded with. In addition, the many schemes of re-drainage in consequence of the conversion of a very large number of privies to water-closets have received the careful attention of this Department. Further particulars of these conversions, the supervision of which has been admirably carried out by the Chief Inspector and his staff of District Inspectors during the year 1928, are given in a separate section of this report, vide pages 31 and 32.

Closet Accommodation. The question of the conversion of closets from conservancy systems to the water-carriage system has received special attention from the Health Department during the year under review. The results of this action are highly satisfactory and no less than 216 water-closets with cistern flush have been provided during the year. This gigantic task has thrown a very heavy burden of work upon Mr. Butler, your Chief Inspector, and upon your District Inspectorial Staff. I would

take this opportunity of thanking them for the efficiency and tact they have all displayed in carrying out these onerous duties and of congratulating them upon the results achieved.

The work of conversion of the closet accommodation from that insanitary abomination, the privy midden, to the hygienic water-closet has been steadily pursued throughout the year and in no instance has it been necessary for the Department to carry out the work in consequence of default on the part of the owners.

During 1928, 125 Privies were converted to W.Cs. The numbers of conversions of this nature carried out in recent years are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Privies converted to Water-Closets.</i>
1923.....	195
1924.....	238
1925.....	200
1926.....	619
1927.....	342
1928.....	125

During the year under review, 8 Pail Closets and 29 Waste-Water Closets were converted to W.Cs., and 54 additional W.Cs. were provided.

216 W.Cs. were thus provided during the year.

Full details of this work are given in the following table :—

CONVERSIONS, ADDITIONAL WATER-CLOSETS, &c., PROVIDED DURING 1928.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Privies converted to W.Cs.</i>	<i>Additional W.Cs. provided.</i>	<i>Pail Closets converted into W.Cs.</i>	<i>Waste Water Closets converted into W.Cs.</i>	<i>Privy Middens abolished.</i>	<i>Dustbins provided where Middens abolished.</i>	<i>Dry Ashpits abolished.</i>	<i>Dustbins provided where Dry Ashpits abolished.</i>
No. 1.....	6	6	—	—	6	10	11	34
No. 2.....	13	17	8	—	9	13	36	74
No. 3.....	16	14	—	26	15	22	15	87
No. 4.....	30	11	—	1	11	33	4	9
No. 5.....	60	6	—	2	35	94	5	19
Total....	125	54	8	29	76	172	71	223
	216							

Scavenging. During the year there have been no material alterations in the methods of scavenging or of refuse disposal which are carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation. Domestic and trade refuse is removed by motor vehicles or horse-drawn carts at regular intervals, and is collected and stacked in tips in various parts of the Borough. Careful and constant supervision of the tips by the Staff of the Cleansing Department reduces the risks of these tips becoming a nuisance and a menace to health but I am convinced that there is the need for the provision of at least one destructor for dealing with such refuse as decaying animal and vegetable matter. "Burn your Refuse" is an excellent slogan, but "Burn your refuse and save your rates" is useless advice to the housewife whose kitchen grate is not equipped to burn rubbish without causing a serious nuisance from black smoke. In a modern scientifically constructed destructor rubbish of all kinds can be incinerated without nuisance.

The substitution of dustbins for the large number of ashpits and privy middens abolished during the year has meant greater rapidity and increased efficiency in the removal of domestic refuse from the houses concerned.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The routine work of sanitary inspection of the area has been systematically and efficiently carried out by your five District Sanitary Inspectors under the able supervision of your Chief Inspector, Mr. Wm. Butler. In consequence of Mr. Butler's death the task of preparing the following statistical summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department during 1928 has devolved upon Mr. Ashton, and to him I am indebted for the able manner in which he has responded to my request at such short notice :—

District Sanitary Inspectors' Work.

The following is a Summary of the Work carried out by the District Inspectors during the Year :—

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
SPECIAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.....	20	69	34	74	10	207
INSPECTIONS MADE :—						
For Housing Purposes.....	393	336	466	265	287	1747
Re-visits during progress of work...	573	457	709	305	1515	3559
Courts and Yards.....	358	416	210	328	115	1427
Re-inspections respecting Conversions	110	83	341	185	41	760
Dry Ashpits.....	43	123	183	39	36	424
Drainage.....	258	402	703	333	315	2011
Water Closet Inspections.....	534	407	525	376	105	1947
Water Courses.....	1	1	5	—	2	9
Picture Houses.....	60	128	10	13	1	212
Miscellaneous.....	678	494	606	836	180	2794
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc., re Sanitary Alterations.....	193	221	374	179	70	1037
INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—						
Cases inquired into.....	118	90	114	176	35	533
Cases removed to Hospital.....	87	66	94	143	24	414
Houses Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	533
Schools and other Public Institutions Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	10
Out District Disinfections.....	—	—	—	—	—	12
Re-visits to Cases isolated at home..	121	23	34	34	31	133
Pneumonia cases inquired into.....	54	22	36	45	15	172
Malaria cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica cases in- quired into.....	3	2	2	1	1	9
Cerebro-Spinal Fever cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis cases inquired into	—	—	—	—	—	—
WATER CLOSETS, ETC. :—						
Water Closets cleansed (by Owners)...	17	56	36	88	23	220
Water Closets cleansed (by Occupiers).	—	12	—	4	—	16
Water Closet Pedestals, etc., re- newed or repaired.....	28	49	91	74	9	251
Water Supply Pipes or Cisterns to Water Closets repaired.....	99	70	127	107	68	471
Water Courses Cleansed.....	—	2	1	—	—	3
Dustbins Renewed	230	143	95	158	131	757

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Houses Cleansed, Re-papered, or Lime-washed.....	5	6	5	4	—	20
Overcrowding Abated.....	2	12	1	—	—	15
Sink Waste Pipes Renewed or Repaired.	42	33	44	52	15	186
Downspout or Eaves Gutters Renewed or Repaired.....	153	116	146	181	76	672
House Drains Tested.....	12	6	15	20	4	57
House Drains and Drains to Water Closets Reconstructed or Repaired..	74	123	165	162	182	706
Gully Traps Fixed	11	42	47	76	59	235
Soilpipes and Ventilating Shafts Erected	14	28	18	38	16	114
Yards, Courts or Passages Drained or Drains Repaired.....	13	53	33	107	42	248
Yards, Courts or Passages Paved or Repaired.....	37	136	63	53	34	323
Yards, Courts or Passages Cleansed by Occupiers.....	1	4	5	14	—	24
Animals Improperly Kept—Removed.	4	6	3	7	1	21
Accumulations Removed.....	4	27	14	14	6	65
Notices (Informal) Served.....	407	282	301	150	156	1296
Miscellaneous Nuisances.....	191	122	274	146	55	788

The following Table gives the Statutory Notices served during the year in respect of the Districts :—

<i>Notice.</i>	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875.....	—	1	9	3	1	14
Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875.....	6	10	7	11	—	34
Section 25, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	—	2	10	4	1	17
Section 58, Stockport Corporation Act, 1899 ; and Section 23, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	—	1	—	—	1	2

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. The following statistical table is compiled from the Annual Report for the year 1928 of the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Stockport on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces :—

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
Factories.....	108	—	—
Workshops.....	451	—	—
Workplaces.....	54	—	—
Total.....	613	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were Instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of Cleanliness.....	1	1	—	—
Other Nuisances.....	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective Sanitary Accommodation.	2	2	—	—
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	5	5	—	—

There were no instances in which the attention of the Department was called to outworkers working in unwholesome premises during 1928.

613 visits of inspection were paid by your Inspectors to the various workplaces during the year.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' List. Section 107.							Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108.		
	Lists received from Employers.			Number of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils.	Number of Addresses of Out-workers forwarded to other Councils.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.		
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.							
	Lists.	Out-workers							Lists.	Out-workers
		Con-tractors	Work-men							
Wearing Apparel :—										
(1) Making, etc...	28	14	201	..	...	..	..	..

Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.....112

<i>Female Out-workers.</i>		<i>Male Out-workers.</i>	
NATURE OF WORK.	NO.	NATURE OF WORK.	NO.
Hat Trimming.....	85	Planking.....	2
Shirt Making.....	1	Boot and Shoe Repairing.....	1
Children's Clothing.....	1	Tailoring.....	2
Machine Knitting.....	1		
	—		—
	88		5
	—		—

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

5 notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of the following matters :—

Unsuitable and Defective Sanitary Accommodation.....	3
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation.....	1
Accommodation not separate for sexes.....	—
Defective Ventilation.....	—
Limewashing W.Cs.....	1

In all instances the defects were remedied

613 visits of inspection have been made to the various workplaces during the year.

Smoke Abatement. The Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, came into operation upon 1st July, 1927.

During the year 73 smoke observations, each of two hours' duration, were taken of smoke from factories, and 67 from railway engines during shunting operations. In 23 instances the amount of smoke emitted was excessive and notices were sent to the owners requiring them to abate the nuisance. No Legal proceedings were instituted.

During the year your Council secured membership of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, which deals with this important problem in an advisory capacity over an extensive area around Manchester.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Bye-Laws are in operation in the Borough with regard to Common Lodging-Houses and Houses Let in Lodgings.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are 6 Common Lodging-Houses in the Borough with adequate accommodation for the needs of the district.

During the year 263 visits were paid to Common Lodging-Houses.

Bakehouses.

124 visits were paid to bakehouses during the year, and the premises were generally found to be in good condition as to cleanliness.

There are 3 underground bakehouses remaining in the Borough.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the Borough 20 premises in which one or other of the offensive trades is carried on, and 228 visits were made to these during the year.

The premises were found to be clean and well-kept and the trades carried on in such a manner as to avoid any cause for complaint.

Fairs and Wakes. Travelling Vans.

In connection with Fairs, every caravan used as a dwelling-house was inspected and in all cases the vans were found to be in a clean condition and no sickness was discovered.

Shops Acts.

The number of shops on the Register on the 31st December, 1928, was 3,546.

The closing of shops is regulated by the Shops Acts, 1912 to 1928. The Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, dated 3rd August, 1928, came into operation during the year.

The work in connection with the early closing of shops is still carried out by the Watch Committee. This arrangement has been found to work extremely satisfactorily.

The Shops Inspector was also engaged as Ambulance Attendant during the year.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

One renewal of licence was granted during the year to a seed merchant to sell poisonous substances to which Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, applies, for use exclusively in connection with agriculture and horticulture, subject to his complying with the provisions of the Arsenic Act, 1851, the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and the Regulations made by Order in Council under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

31 visits of inspection were made under the above Act and advice was given to the persons concerned as to the safest means of destruction in the various cases. It is known that some hundreds of rats were destroyed.

Schools.

There are thirty-two Public Elementary Schools in the Borough. The sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory and the water supply is pure and adequate.

(1) SCHOOL HYGIENE.

I have drawn attention to School Hygiene in my Annual Report for 1928 upon the School Medical Service as follows :—

Mr. Mellor, School Buildings Surveyor, has reported as follows :—

“The undermentioned improvements to Elementary School Buildings have been carried out during the past year, viz. :—

PORTWOOD TEMPORARY COUNCIL SCHOOL. The galleries have been removed from the large room and Infants' schoolroom. The old floors have been taken up and replaced with tongued and grooved maple boards, secret nailed. The heating pipes have been re-arranged.

PLAYGROUNDS. Repairs to playgrounds have been carried out at the following Schools :—

Alexandra Park Council, Senior and Junior.

Wellington Road Council.

Banks Lane Council.

North Reddish Council.

BELMONT COUNCIL SCHOOL. The erection of the new School, which was commenced in September, 1927, is now near completion.

FYLDE LODGE HIGH SCHOOL. The erection of a temporary building consisting of three classrooms of the open-air type, with cloakroom and lavatory accommodation, was commenced during the summer vacation, and the building was occupied during October.”

Your Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer to the Education Committee, and is thus able to secure close co-operation between the various departments concerned. In this way, delay is avoided in dealing with cases of Infectious Disease amongst our school population. Isolation of Infectious Cases, quarantine and supervision of contacts and disinfection of premises receive prompt attention.

During the year your Medical Officer of Health paid special visits to two public elementary schools in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease amongst the scholars in attendance.

(2) SCHOOL CLOSURE.

During 1928 it was not found necessary to recommend School Closure for infectious disease nor was it necessary to do so for any other reason. Full particulars of the work of the School Medical Department in supervising the health of our school population are given in my Annual Report upon the School Medical Service for 1928.

Public Wash-House.

Stockport's first public Wash-house has been built and it was brought into use by your Baths and Wash-houses Committee upon 5th June, 1928. It is conveniently situated in Bann Street, and it has proved an unqualified success. So great has been the demand upon the accommodation provided that the Committee concerned have under consideration the need for the provision of similar Wash-houses in other parts of the town. The women using the Wash-house have frequently paid grateful tribute to the Tramways Committee for permitting the bundles of clothing to be carried to and from the Wash-house free on the trams.

ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT BATHS. Your Baths and Wash-houses Committee have met the increasing demand on the part of the public for Artificial Sunlight Baths by establishing at the Public Baths in St. Petersgate an Ultra-violet Ray Centre. This Centre was opened by His Worship the Mayor on 15th February, 1928, in temporary premises at the St. Petersgate Baths. The Centre is conducted by two fully-trained and highly-skilled operators who administer tonic doses of the rays after careful skin tests have been carried out.

Patients suffering from various ailments are only treated at the request and under the control of their doctors. The charges are moderate and many members of the public have availed themselves of the facilities thus provided.

HOUSING.

The majority of the population in the Borough are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in rows. In the older parts of the Borough a certain number of courtyards have been formed by the interposition of dwellings between rows of cottage property. Overcrowding exists, as elsewhere throughout the country, but no case of dangerous overcrowding has been brought to my notice during the year. 332 houses have been built during the year but there exists a serious shortage of houses. The number of houses erected by the Municipality and by private enterprise since the war has only touched the fringe of the problem, and the arrears in house-building consequent upon the war and upon the abnormal conditions of the post-war period have not been overcome.

Overcrowding is a serious matter not only for a community but also for its individual members and especially for the children. Where two or perhaps three families are huddled together in one small cottage it is impossible to rear children who will be strong and healthy in a physical, mental, or moral sense.

Where overcrowding exists it becomes exceedingly difficult to control epidemics of infectious disease.

The work of inspection for housing purposes has been ably carried out by your District Inspectors under the supervision of Mr. Butler. The policy of the Department has been to secure that wherever possible houses shall be kept by the owners in such a state as to be reasonably fit for human habitation. Only essential repairs have been insisted upon and little difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the co-operation of property owners to secure the remedying of defects.

In view of the housing shortage it is essential that as many as possible of the existing houses shall be kept in a reasonable state of repair.

The following Table summaries the statistical findings in connection with housing work during 1928 :—

HOUSING CONDITIONS. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres).....	7,059
Population (Census 1921, and estimated 1928), 125,200.....	127,600
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	30,160
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921).....	30,225
Rateable Value.....	£820,237
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£3,079

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	332
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :—	
(1) By Local Authority.....	74
(2) By other Bodies or Persons.....	197

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection. (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..	2598
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.....	1762
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	998

2. Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	760
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	105
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners.....	73
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close.....	19

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied,....	} Included in previous sections.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.....	
(a) By Owners.....	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	

C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit.....	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	Nil

Unhealthy Areas.

The representation by your Medical Officer of Health with reference to the existence of an unhealthy area in a portion of No. 11, or St. Thomas's Ward, was dealt with in my Annual Report for 1927. A scheme is being prepared by the officials of the Corporation, but it has not been completed during the year under review.

There are signs that in the near future slum clearance schemes will receive more attention throughout the country generally. One of the greatest difficulties met with in carrying out schemes of this character is the question of the re-housing of that portion of the population displaced by slum clearance. This difficulty will be overcome to a great extent as soon as the shortage of housing accommodation becomes less acute.

The machinery for dealing with unhealthy areas is cumbersome and requires simplification.

Paving, Sewering, &c.

I am indebted to H. Hamer, Esq., the Borough Surveyor, for the following information with regard to the amount of paving, sewerage, etc., carried out by his Department during 1928 :—

Back Passages paved and sewerage.....	5	
Length of sewers laid.....	7168	lineal yards.
Vertical shaft ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Surface sewer ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Old sewers taken up and re-laid.....	191	lineal yards.
Cellar dwellings closed for street improvements.....	Nil	
Cellar areas closed.....	17	
Houses demolished for street improvements.....	3	
Water-closets erected in connection with new buildings	126	
Houses built during the year.....	332	
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year....	228	

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

The greater part of the milk supplied to Stockport comes from farms in Cheshire and the milk is generally of good quality.

It is of the utmost importance to secure for a community an adequate supply of pure wholesome milk, which is one of our staple articles of diet and which is indispensable for invalids and young children.

Milk makes an excellent medium for the growth of organisms of all kinds and is liable to contamination by disease producing germs. It is therefore necessary that the most scrupulous cleanliness be exercised by all those who are engaged in its production, storage, transport and distribution.

The farms and dairies in the area have been regularly inspected, and samples of milk have been examined chemically and bacteriologically at regular intervals.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.

These Regulations have been revoked by the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

There are no premises in the Borough where cream is prepared and bottled for sale. 23 informal samples of cream were taken during the year, of which 2 were adulterated with 0.17 per cent. and 0.24 per cent. boric acid, respectively.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

Your Inspector has made 303 visits of inspection to these places during the year when the cattle were inspected and observations as to general cleanliness were made. Minor repairs to drains, ventilators, etc., have been carried out in several instances.

4 tuberculous animals were surrendered and destroyed.

In 5 instances when infectious disease was reported in connection with Milk Purveyors the necessary isolation, disinfection, etc., was promptly carried out.

497 visits have been made to the various Milkshops.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

30 samples of milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination, representing the mixed milk from 22 farms. In 3 instances the samples contained tubercle bacilli. The cases were followed up with the result that 3 cows were surrendered, 2 being destroyed, and in one case part of the carcase after examination was passed for food.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

On page 97 is found a statement of the administration of the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, with details as to the quantity of milk supplied to infants and to expectant and nursing mothers, in necessitous cases, either free or at less than cost price.

B. MEAT, &c.

There are 24 Slaughter-houses in the Borough to which 1,115 visits of inspection have been made, and it was found necessary to serve notices to cleanse, repair drains, etc., in 7 instances.

There is no Public Abattoir in the Borough. Inspection is carried out by the Food Inspector at the private slaughter-houses.

During the year the local Co-operative Society have established a large, well-equipped modern Slaughter-house, etc., on a suitable site at Adswold within the Borough. In addition to the Slaughter-house, accommodation has been provided on the site for Cold Storage and for the preparation of various meat, etc., products. The management of the Society is to be congratulated on their initiative in providing such excellent accommodation.

The various shops where food is stored, premises where sausages, etc., are made, and the Market, have been regularly visited. The following is a summary of the unsound food dealt with by your Inspector and subsequently destroyed :—

39 carcases of Beef.	309 tins of Fruit, etc.
1 side of Beef.	344 lbs. of Fish.
147 lbs. of Beef.	36 sets of Offal.
12 Pigs.	1 Bag of Potatoes.
17 Pigs Heads.	

C. ADULTERATION, &c.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

16 samples have been found to be adulterated as compared with 9 in the previous year.

Of the 360 samples submitted for analysis, 276 were samples of milk, and of these 13 were found to be adulterated.

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration, as compared with other years, and the Analyst's reports thereon :—

Analysis of Food and Drugs.

<i>Articles Analysed.</i>	<i>Number Analysed.</i>	<i>Result of Analyses.</i>		<i>Extent of Adulteration.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
		<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>		
				Formal Samples.	
Milk.....	273	260	13	34.0% deficient in milk fat and 5.0% added water 13.3% deficient in milk fat. 7.0% " 9.3% added water 5.3% " 4.3% " 4.1% " 3.2% " 2.6% " 2.0% " 1.5% " 1.4% " 1.0% "	Prosecuted. " " " " " " " " "
Lard.....	6	6	—		
Malt Vinegar.....	6	6	—		
Sausage	3	3	—		
				Informal Samples.	
Milk.....	3	3	—		
Butter.....	10	10	—		
Cream.....	23	21	2	0.24% boric acid 0.17% "	
Mincemeat.....	4	4	—		
Sausage.....	6	6	—		
Malt Vinegar.....	6	6	—		
Coffee.....	6	6	—		
Pepper.....	10	10	—		
Ginger	4	3	1	1,180 parts of sul- phur dioxide per million.	
Totals.....	360	344	16		

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1919	..	359	..	19	5.29
1920	..	360	..	8	2.22
1921	..	360	..	16	4.4
1922	..	361	..	26	7.2
1923	..	326	..	12	3.68
1924	..	360	..	19	5.28
1925	..	360	..	17	4.72
1926	..	361	..	11	3.05
1927	..	360	..	9	2.50
1928	..	360	..	16	4.4

Analysis of *milk samples* compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1919	..	269	..	17	6.32
1920	..	239	..	6	2.51
1921	..	223	..	9	4.04
1922	..	233	..	10	4.3
1923	..	187	..	7	3.74
1924	..	243	..	13	5.35
1925	..	211	..	10	4.74
1926	..	226	..	8	3.54
1927	..	225	..	7	3.11
1928	..	276	..	13	4.7

Your Public Analyst, James Porter Shenton, Esq., F.I.C., F.C.S., has carried out his work during the year under review with his customary care and promptitude, and his reports have been highly satisfactory in every respect. It was with deep regret that your Health Committee accepted Mr. Shenton's resignation of the position of Public Analyst, &c., to this County Borough, which came into operation on 31st December, 1928. Mr. Shenton found it necessary to give up his general practice as an Analytical and Consulting Chemist. His services as Public Analyst to Stockport during the past five years have been highly valued by the Committee, and in my association with Mr. Shenton I have found him a loyal colleague and a faithful public servant. He will be succeeded by Mr. Marshall, whose splendid record of service in a similar capacity with a neighbouring authority is well-known to you.

Legal Proceedings during the Year 1928.

OFFENCE.	RESULT.	FINE.
SELLING ADULTERATED MILK :—		
34.0% deficient in fat and 5.0% added water.....	Convicted	£7/10/—, Analyst's, Advocate's & witness's fees.
13.3% deficient in fat	£2, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
7.0% ,, 	£2 and Analyst's fee.
9.3% added water.....	..	£3 ,,
5.3% ,, 	£2, Analyst's, Advocate's and witness's fees.
4.3% ,, 	£5, Analyst's and Advocate's fees.
4.1% ,,
3.2% ,,
For an offence against the Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920.....	..	£2

Ice Cream Vendors.

These places have been visited 159 times during the year, and in 3 instances notices were served to cleanse the premises, and one owner was requested to inscribe his name and address on the vehicles used for the sale of this commodity.

PART II.

Infectious Diseases.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified to your Medical Officer of Health during 1928 was 1,295, as compared with 1,498 during the previous year.

Included in the 1,295 notifications received were 523 notifications of cases of Chicken-pox which was notifiable from February 28th to September 14th, 1928, inclusive, by order of the Council and with the consent of the Minister of Health.

During the year under review, 11 cases of Small-pox were notified, as compared with 6 cases in 1927. Notifications of cases of Scarlet Fever continued to decline from 840 in 1926 and 545 in 1927, to 265 in 1928. There has been a very considerable reduction in the incidence of Scarlet Fever in all parts of the Borough, and the disease continued to be of mild type. Mild cases of Scarlet Fever make the work of control of an epidemic most difficult. Many of the patients suffered so little inconvenience at the onset of the illness that they were not confined to bed nor did they seek medical aid until several weeks had elapsed and desquamation had commenced.

Notifications of Diphtheria during 1928 numbered 189 as compared with 104 in 1926 and 109 in 1927.

Of the 265 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 220, or 83 per cent., were removed for isolation and treatment to your Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport.

Of the 189 cases of Diphtheria notified, 177, or 93.6 per cent., were isolated and treated in the Isolation Hospital.

The services of your Medical Officer of Health have been available for purposes of consultation upon doubtful cases of Infectious Diseases, and during the period under review he has seen 54 cases in consultation with his medical colleagues.

Measures taken to control epidemics of infectious disease depend for their efficiency upon the receipt of early information of the occurrence of cases. Prompt notification is of great value, but delayed notification is useless. In this connection I would express my thanks to my medical colleagues for their loyal co-operation and their valuable help. Information is sent by your Medical Officer of Health to the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned when persons from outside districts have been in contact with cases of Infectious disease in this area. Inter-notification of cases in this way when promptly and efficiently carried out is of great value in dealing with epidemics of Infectious Disease.

The removal of cases to the Isolation Hospital, the investigation of the home conditions by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the disinfection of the premises, bedding, etc., have been carried out in a highly satisfactory manner by the officers of this Department.

The following table contains information as to the age incidence of, and mortality from, cases of notifiable infectious diseases during 1928 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1928.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified.	At Ages—Years.												Cases admitted to Fever Hospital.	Cases treated in Sanatoria, etc.	Total Deaths.	Deaths at age periods.											
		—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.				—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.
Smallpox	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	6	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever.....	265	1	6	6	13	15	122	57	21	20	3	1	..	220	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria.....	189	2	5	8	5	14	103	19	9	15	6	3	..	177	..	5	..	1	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever.....	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	1	1	..	6	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
*Chicken-pox.....	523	27	25	36	27	60	309	27	10	1	1	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever.....	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	..	..	..	9	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	4	..	..	..	14	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Erysipelas.....	60	1	..	..	1	1	..	3	1	5	10	32	6	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia :																												
Acute Primary.....	132	2	1	3	4	2	13	8	5	27	34	24	9	..	54	56	1	..	..	..	1	3	3	1	8	13	18	8
Acute Influenzal.....	40	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	8	7	15	5	..	4	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	10	3
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	26	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica...	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	1	1	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total...	1295	59	37	53	50	92	548	120	51	109	70	80	26	414	135	91	2	1	..	1	3	4	5	1	17	16	30	11

* Notifiable from February 28th to September 14th inclusive.

RECAPITULATING THE YEAR 1955

The seasonal prevalence of these various diseases is indicated in the following table which shews the notifications received in the various months of the year 1928 :—

DISEASE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Smallpox.....	..	7	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Scarlet Fever.....	15	18	17	33	25	18	32	17	23	21	26	20	265
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	10	19	18	15	11	10	17	2	18	26	28	15	189
Typhoid Fever.....	..	..	1	..	..	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	8
*Chickenpox.....	..	14	98	104	92	75	108	23	8	..	..	..	523
Puerperal Fever.....	..	2	1	1	..	3	..	1	1	..	1	..	10
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	2	2	4	4	1	3	..	2	1	1	..	2	22
Erysipelas.....	9	8	4	7	9	1	2	4	6	1	4	5	60
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	26
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	1	1	1	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	9
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis—													
Pulmonary.....	12	12	22	10	14	13	12	10	7	11	11	11	145
Other Forms.....	8	1	13	8	5	7	2	4	4	7	5	5	69
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia.....	11	7	5	10	21	13	12	3	5	19	12	14	132
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	3	1	5	3	14	2	1	..	1	5	3	2	40
Totals.....	75	94	195	199	194	151	190	70	78	92	94	77	1509

* Notifiable from February 28th to September 14th, inclusive.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Smallpox.

The County Borough had been free from this disease from 1909 until 1927 when 6 cases of mild type were reported and treated.

During 1928, 11 cases of Smallpox were notified to your Medical Officer of Health. The outbreak was limited to one epidemic, seven of the cases occurred in February, and four in March. With the exception of two cases all occurred in the Guardians' Institutions at Stepping Hill and Shaw Heath, and of the two cases which occurred in the town one was in the unvaccinated wife of an attendant at the Shaw Heath Institution. The cases were all of mild type, but many of the patients were advanced in years and were the victims of chronic debilitating ailments. All the cases were removed to the Hyde Smallpox Hospital for treatment and all made successful recoveries.

The following is a brief summary of the cases :—

- CASE 1. J.W.G.—male—77 years—no occupation—unvaccinated—was seen by Medical Officer of Health in consultation with Dr. Dutton, at Stepping Hill Hospital on 20-2-1928—patient had been transferred to Stepping Hill Hospital from the Shaw Heath Institution five days previously, suffering from general debility, etc.—few spots small in size and macular in type on neck and chest—diagnosis of Smallpox confirmed on 24-2-1928.—Case removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on 25-2-1928.
- CASE 2. J.W.S.—male—67 years—vaccinated in Infancy—2 marks left arm (half-inch)—seen by Medical Officer of Health with Dr. Howie Smith at Shaw Heath Institution on 23-2-1928—transferred on the same day to Stepping Hill Hospital for isolation and observation along with Case 1—few macules on face, neck and chest—Diagnosis of Smallpox confirmed on 24-2-1928—Case removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on 25-2-1928.
- CASE 3. J.W.—male—63 years—vaccinated in Infancy—one faint mark on right arm—onset of rash 21-2-1928—seen at Stepping Hill Hospital and diagnosis confirmed on 24-2-1928—case removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on 25-2-1928.
- CASE 4.—M.D.—male—70 years—unvaccinated in Infancy—He was vaccinated by Dr. Smith on 21-2-1928 but it proved unsuccessful and his rash appeared on the same day—Diagnosis of Smallpox confirmed on 24-2-1928 and case was removed to Hospital on the following day.
- CASE 5. T.W.—male—74 years—unvaccinated—onset of rash 21-2-1928—seen at Stepping Hill Hospital and diagnosis confirmed on 24-2-1928—case removed to Hyde Hospital on 25-2-1928.
- CASE 6. P.G.—male—72 years—vaccinated in Infancy—one faint mark on right arm—onset of rash 22-2-1928—Case seen at Stepping Hill Hospital and diagnosis confirmed on 24-2-1928—removed to Hyde Hospital 25-2-1928.

CASE 7. B.B.—male—60 years—vaccinated in Infancy and unsuccessfully re-vaccinated on 24-2-1928—onset of rash 29-2-1928—Diagnosis confirmed and case removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on 29-2-1928 from Shaw Heath Institution.

CASE 8. J.K.—male—77 years—vaccinated in Infancy—two marks on each arm (half inch)—onset of rash 1-3-1928—case notified by Dr. Smith and removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital from the Shaw Heath Institution on the same day.

CASE 9. A.D.—male—55 years—unemployed—unvaccinated—case seen at his own home by the Medical Officer of Health in consultation with Dr. Howie Smith on 5-3-1928—diagnosis of Smallpox confirmed—case removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on the same day. Patient had attended weekly at the Shaw Heath Institution for out-door relief, but he had not been in any of the Wards nor had he been in contact with any known case of the disease.

CASE 10. L.M.J.—female—40 years—unvaccinated—onset of symptoms of headache, backache, etc., on 17-3-1928—rash appeared on 20-3-1928—case notified as Smallpox by Dr. Berry on 20-3-1928—diagnosis confirmed and case removed to the Hyde Smallpox Hospital on the same day. The case proved to be one of discrete Smallpox of severe type. Her husband is employed as an attendant at the Shaw Heath Institution. He had been vaccinated and successfully re-vaccinated and did not contract the disease.

CASE 11. A.F.—female—58 years—tramp—inmate of Casual Ward of the Shaw Heath Institution for one night—Diagnosis of Smallpox confirmed on 23-3-1928, and case was removed to Hyde Smallpox Hospital on the same day. This woman developed an attack of Smallpox within 24 hours of her admission to the Casual Ward, but thanks to the vigilance of the staff and the efficient measures of re-vaccination which had been carried out, no further cases occurred.

The difficulty in preventing the spread of Smallpox by persons of the tramp class is well illustrated by the investigation which was made into the movements of Case No. 11 prior to her admission to the Shaw Heath Institution.

On 10-3-1928 she left the Casual Ward at Loughborough where she had been for some time.

12-3-1928 to 14-3-1928 at Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Casual Ward).

14-3-1928 at Burton-on-Trent (Casual Ward).

15-3-1928 at Uttoxeter (Casual Ward).

17-3-1928 at Cheadle (Staffs.), (Casual Ward).

19-3-1928 at Leek (Casual Ward).

20-3-1928 at Macclesfield (Casual Ward).

22-3-1928 at Stockport (Casual Ward).

It was impossible to trace the source of infection in the first case which occurred. One man, a contact of a case of Smallpox at Huddersfield, had spent a night at the Shaw Heath Institution on 2-2-1928, but he had been vaccinated by Dr. Howie Smith and shewed no sign of illness during his stay at Stockport. As soon as the diagnosis of the illness of the patients had been confirmed prompt and efficient measures were taken by Dr. Smith to have the patients and staff at both institutions vaccinated or re-vaccinated.

To H. Barlow, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians, and to Drs. Howie Smith and Dutton I am indebted for their efficient help in dealing with the epidemic. I am also indebted to Mr. Barlow, Clerk to the Guardians, for his kindness in furnishing the following information with regard to vaccination returns for the County Borough from 1918 to 1927 :—

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

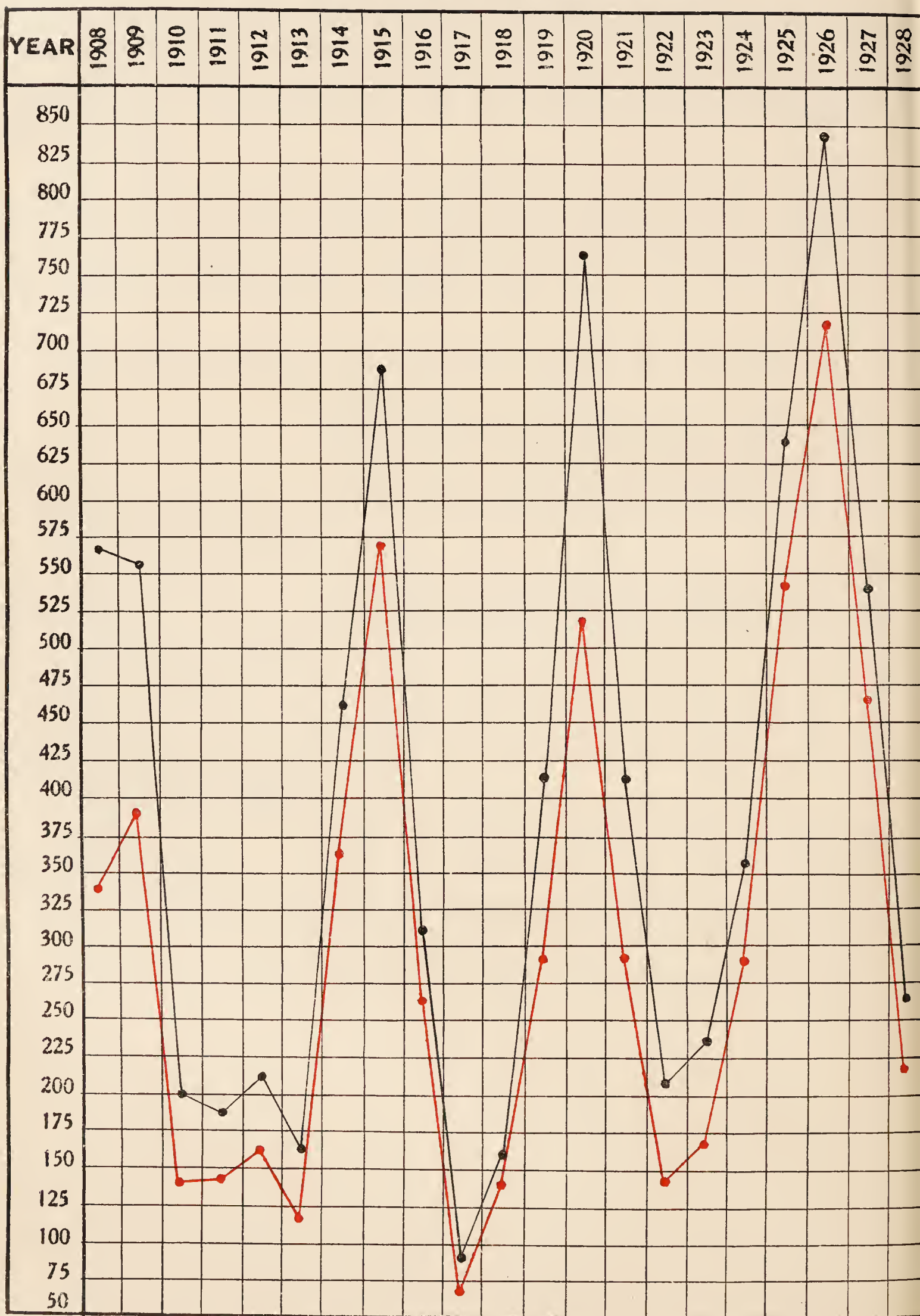
	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Births.....	1782	1959	2890	2567	2197	2210	2067	2077	2017	1859
Successfully vaccinated...	847	847	1287	1136	976	1046	970	898	922	819
Insusceptible of vaccination.....	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	12	3
Died unvaccinated.....	134	137	205	173	135	139	108	130	104	129
Exemptions.....	653	812	1179	1051	938	748	745	832	804	713
Postponement by Medical Certificate.....	53	37	92	68	42	66	90	74	61	83
Removed: Address unknown.....	75	52	73	57	45	49	72	67	49	52
Had Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Removed to other districts										
Vaccination Officer notified.....	10	12	32	47	46	53	72	56	52	49
Unaccounted for.....	10	62	22	37	13	27	8	18	13	11
* Successful primary vaccinations at all ages	729	988	1410	1354	1063	1125	1088	1012	953	1530

* The number of successful primary vaccinations at all ages during 1928 was 814.

Chart shewing the number of cases of Scarlet Fever for the past 21 years.

No. of cases notified in black.

No. of cases removed to Hospital in red.



Scarlet Fever.

The epidemic of Scarlet Fever which was noted in 1925 and 1926 abated during 1928 and, during the twelve months under review 265 cases of this disease were notified to your Health Department. Fortunately most of the cases were of mild type. Many of the cases were so mild, and the initial symptoms were so slight, that the illness was considered to be of a trivial nature. It was only on the occurrence of desquamation that Scarlet Fever was suspected and medical aid sought.

The foregoing chart illustrates the recurrence of periods of epidemic prevalence of Scarlet Fever at intervals of five or six years.

It will be seen that the year 1926 was a "peak" year with 840 cases. The figure of 265 cases in 1928 shews a satisfactory diminution in the prevalence of Scarlet Fever.

The chart referred to points to the periodicity of Scarlet Fever epidemics, indicates an increasing number of cases occurring at each epidemic and warns us that additional accommodation in Hospital will have to be provided for the cases within the next few years :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 1928</i>	<i>Estimated Popula- tion.</i>	<i>Percentage of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population</i>
Lancashire Hill.....	7	5690	71	1.23
Heaton Lane.....	14	6210	100	2.25
Old Road.....	19	5860	74	3.24
Portwood.....	15	8060	100	1.86
St. Mary's.....	2	2920	100	0.68
Vernon.....	11	6550	100	1.68
Spring Bank.....	3	4230	100	0.71
Hollywood.....	9	9255	89	0.97
Edgeley.....	11	11570	73	0.95
Shaw Heath.....	21	10825	90	1.94
St. Thomas's.....	5	5165	100	0.97
Hempshaw Lane.....	15	5570	100	2.70
Cale Green.....	6	6315	50	0.95
Heaviley.....	57	12120	88	4.70
Reddish North.....	35	9800	69	3.57
Reddish South.....	9	6200	89	1.45
Heaton Norris North.....	7	5200	43	1.35
Heaton Norris South.....	11	6060	45	1.82
Infirmary.....	3	..	100	..
Union Workhouse.....	..	..	..	..
Union Hospital.....	2	..	100	..
Isolation Hospital.....	..	..	..	..
Barnes' Home Indus- trial School.....	3	..	100	..

Diphtheria.

189 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year as compared with 109 cases during 1927. The cases were of a sporadic nature and were distributed throughout the town.

The home conditions in each case were carefully investigated by your Sanitary Inspectors and preventive measures were adopted.

The Medical Attendant of each case notified was requested to examine all contacts and to take swabs from the throats, etc., of contacts for bacteriological examination if necessary. Materials for taking cultures from the throat, nose, etc., for bacteriological examination are provided for the use of medical practitioners on application to the Stockport Infirmary.

Outfits containing Diphtheria Antitoxin and syringe are kept at the Town Hall and Police Stations for the use of medical men as follows :—

- (1) At Town Hall.—Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.
- (2) At Police Station, Vernon Street.—3 Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.
- (3) At Police Station, Reddish.—Outfit containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.
- (4) *At Police Station, Heaton Moor.—Phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units are kept in stock. (*This Station was closed on 3rd July, 1928.)

Outfits after use are returned to the Town Hall and after the contents have been replenished and the syringe, etc., sterilised at the Isolation Hospital they are re-distributed for use. I have to thank the Matron of the Isolation Hospital for making the necessary arrangements for the careful sterilization of these outfits.

Typhoid Fever.

Eight cases of Typhoid Fever were reported during the year as compared with 4 cases in 1927. 6 of the cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Notification of cases of these diseases is governed by the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations as amended by the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Amendment Regulations, 1928.

During the year, 22 notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia and 10 notifications of Puerperal Fever were received. Full details of these cases are given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide page 91.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

26 cases of this disease were notified during the year as compared with 27 cases in 1927.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Particulars of the occurrence of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and of Pemphigus Neonatorum are given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide pages 91 and 92.

Erysipelas.

60 cases were notified during the year as compared with 65 in 1927. Of these cases 20 received institutional treatment, and there were no fatal cases.

Pneumonia.

Two forms of Pneumonia are compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health :—

- (1) Acute Primary Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1928—132.
- (2) Acute Influenzal Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1928—40.

Of these cases 56 of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 17 of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia proved fatal.

Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.

No information reached the Department as to the occurrence of fresh cases of Malaria, or Dysentery.

Tuberculosis.

During 1928, 145 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified ; of these 73 were males and 72 females.

69 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during the same period, 25 males and 44 females.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Nine cases of this disease were notified as compared with 7 cases in 1927. Of these 9 cases 5 proved fatal. Special reports were received from the Doctors in attendance upon these cases. I would take this opportunity of thanking my medical colleagues for their kindness in furnishing particulars of their cases of this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica is a very fatal disease and in a proportion of the survivors serious alteration in the mental condition and in the moral outlook is met with. This disease is believed to be communicable from one person to another, and in Stockport your Health Committee has arranged for cases in the acute stage of the illness to be isolated and treated at your Isolation Hospital and for disinfection of the premises, etc., to be carried out.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There were no cases of this disease notified during 1928.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of this disease notified during 1928.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough of Stockport, but information as to the occurrence of cases is obtained from the School Medical Officers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, and from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitations.

Measles and Whooping Cough are really serious diseases of childhood because of the tendency for the occurrence of complications affecting the respiratory organs, e.g., Bronchitis, Broncho-Pneumonia, and Pneumonia.

During the year 15 deaths were ascribed to Measles and 13 to Whooping Cough. Cases of Measles and Whooping Cough are visited and the parents are advised as to the need for medical assistance and as to measures for the prevention of complications.

Bacteriological Examinations.

The routine Bacteriological work is carried out at the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department, under arrangements made by your Health Committee with the Infirmary Board, and at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

The results of the examinations carried out during the year were as follows :—

	<i>Positive.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	214	..	1269
Typhoid.....	1	..	7
Other Bacteriological Examinations :			
Milk (Bacterial Count).....	—	..	—
Water.....	—	..	—
Uterine Contents.....	2	..	2

During the year the following specimens were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester :—

	<i>Positive.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	1	..	1
Typhoid.....	—	..	7
Bovine Tuberculosis in Milk.....	4	..	30
Tuberculosis Sputum.....	—	..	—

The examination of sputa in suspected cases of phthisis is carried out at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, 589 examinations being carried out there during 1928, of which 95 were positive and 494 negative.

Particulars of the examination of Pathological material in connection with Venereal Disease, which is mainly carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, are given on page 83.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises after infectious diseases is carried out by the Staff of your Health Department.

Infected materials, bedding, etc., are removed to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection.

During the year 12,700 articles were thus disinfected.

The disinfection of infected materials and the cleansing of persons would be considerably facilitated if a Cleansing Station were established in a central position in the town. It is hoped that a scheme for such a station will be submitted for your consideration at an early date.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Your Isolation Hospital situated in Cherry Tree Lane, has accommodation for 78 cases and is utilised for the isolation and treatment of cases of acute infectious disease occurring within the County Borough.

Your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital and has been ably assisted in the conduct of the Hospital by Dr. James Worthington, the Deputy Medical Superintendent; Miss T. P. Cranmore, the Matron; and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs. I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and members of the Hospital Sub-Committee for their keen personal interest in the Hospital and their kindly consideration at all times for the welfare of the patients. I am deeply indebted to Dr. Worthington for his willing co-operation and able help in the medical work at the Hospital.

The results of treatment at the Hospital have been highly satisfactory. Of the 220 cases of Scarlet Fever and 177 of Diphtheria admitted during the year only one case of Scarlet Fever and 5 of Diphtheria proved fatal.

Each case prior to discharge was carefully examined as to freedom from infection, and the number of "return" cases was comparatively small.

The accompanying table sets forth the statistics of the work of the Hospital and of the results of treatment of the cases during 1928 :—

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL, CHERRY TREE LANE, STOCKPORT.

<i>Name of Disease.</i>	<i>In Hospital 1st Jan., 1928.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Recovered and Discharged</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>In Hosptail 31st Dec., 1928.</i>
Scarlet Fever..	62	†221	252	1	30
Typhoid Fever.	—	6	5	1	—
Diphtheria.....	16	177	169	5	19
Other Causes....	—	*10	8	‡2	—
Totals.....	78	414	434	9	49

† Including one case from the area of the Handforth Urban District Council.

* 6 notified as Scarlet Fever, 2 as Typhoid Fever, and 2 as Diphtheria.

‡ Notified as Scarlet Fever.

During the year 1928 it has not been possible to use systematically the Schick Test for Diphtheria and the Dick Test for Scarlet Fever in the routine work of the Hospital. These tests, now used extensively in the United States of America, are of value in the diagnosis of certain doubtful cases, but so far their use in this country has been limited.

CASES TREATED FROM 1909 TO 1928 INCLUSIVE, IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Smallpox.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	11
Scarlet Fever....	438	175	150	199	132	374	626	355	92	146	314	597	365	184	187	338	611	808	602	283
Typhus.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric.....	14	8	7	6	21	17	23	15	24	17	11	3	2	5	1	4	1	2	5	6
Diphtheria.....	7	14	14	17	44	27	57	55	26	69	73	167	145	112	99	55	86	92	112	193
Other Diseases...	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	7	13	2	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	30	14	10
Totals.....	461	197	171	223	198	418	709	432	155	234	401	767	512	304	287	399	698	932	739	503

“Return Cases” are essentially a Hospital question. When a case of Scarlet Fever has been discharged from Hospital to his own home, and within a certain period, i.e., 28 days, another member of his family contracts Scarlet Fever and is admitted to the Hospital, the second case is referred to as a “Return Case.” Such cases have been the subject of special investigation by the Officers of your Department, and the following table shews the results of these investigations.

On discharge from your isolation Hospital the parents of each child receive written instructions as to the measures to be adopted to prevent the occurrence of such cases, but, of course, it is difficult to ensure that these instructions will be carried out. I am convinced that such articles as toys and books which have been hidden away during the child's absence from the home, and which are brought into use on the child's return, are responsible for many “Return Cases.”

During the year under review I have continued to interview the relatives of patients who are undergoing treatment at the Isolation Hospital. The times set aside for this purpose are 9-30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and interviews are given at my office at the Town Hall. During 1928, 1,663 interviews were granted for this purpose.

The patients' relatives are thus enabled to obtain a personal report upon the progress of the cases which is supplemented by the daily progress reports published at the Town Hall, at the Reddish Police Station, and in the columns of the daily Press.

The arrangements referred to are much appreciated by the patients' relatives as are the kindly consideration and devoted service of the Hospital Matron and her Staff.

During the year J. Webb, who had been the Hospital Ambulance Driver for many years, resigned his appointment and was succeeded by S. Benham. In the treatment of Scarlet Fever cases I have continued during the year the use of Serum treatment for severe cases. 16 cases were thus treated. The number treated is too small to permit of definite conclusions as to the value of this method of treatment, but there is no doubt that the period of acute illness in these cases is reduced by the use of serum from a week or more to 48 hours. So far the statistics available do not point to any marked reduction in the duration of stay in Hospital or in the incidence of complications in cases receiving Serum treatment.

Mr. Archer, Hon. Surgeon to the Throat and Nose Department at Stockport Infirmary, successfully carried out operative treatment at the Isolation Hospital upon two patients during the year. One case involved an operation for the removal of Tonsils and Adenoids in a patient who was a carrier of virulent Diphtheria organisms, and the other case was one of Acute Mastoiditis following Scarlet Fever.

During the year your Medical Officer of Health delivered a course of lectures to the Probationer Nurses at the Hospital upon “Fever Nursing.”

TABULAR STATEMENT OF "RETURN CASES" OF SCARLET FEVER.

DISCHARGED PATIENTS.					Notes as to any abnormality.		Onset and number of Return Case.	Interval between Discharge of Patient and onset of Return Case.	
No. in Register.	Age.	Sex.	Date of Discharge.	Days in Hospital	Length of Illness.	On Discharge.			After Discharge.
763	9	M	17/ 1/28	40	41	..	..	23/ 1/28 (30)	6 days
775	6 _{10/12ths}	M	20/ 1/28	35	40	..	Severe cold	10/ 2/28 (63)	21 „
88	6	F	1/ 5/28	66	71	..	Nasal discharge	11/ 5/28 (239)	10 „
129	7	M	27/ 4/28	38	43	..	..	5/ 5/28 (231)	8 „
179	2½	M	18 /5/28	36	36	..	..	28/ 5/28 (268)	10 „
180	6	M							
272	5 _{10/12ths}	M	31/ 8/28	86	90	..	..	8/ 9/28 (413)	8 „

PART III.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

214 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with 197 in the previous year.

Of the 214 cases thus notified 145 were cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs and 69 were cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition to the above, there were 15 cases, 6 Pulmonary and 9 Non-pulmonary, which ended fatally and which had not been notified in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations. The ratio of deaths of non-notified cases to total deaths from Tuberculosis was thus one in seven. In these non-notified cases the attention of the Medical Practitioner in attendance is drawn to the fact that the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations have not been complied with.

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis during the year was 107 as compared with 105 in the previous year, giving a death-rate of 0.84 per thousand of the population.

In the following table of New Cases and Mortality during 1928 all primary notifications are included together with other new cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year :—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				TOTAL DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.....	2	—	3	1	2	—	3	—
1-5.....	1	—	7	13	—	—	3	2
5-10.....	—	4	10	8	—	—	3	—
10-15.....	3	7	3	5	—	—	—	1
15-20.....	7	12	1	4	7	6	—	—
20-25.....	9	7	—	7	8	7	—	—
25-35.....	7	19	6	6	9	8	2	2
35-45.....	20	20	—	3	9	10	—	—
45-55.....	16	3	—	1	11	4	—	—
55-65.....	7	3	—	1	3	2	—	1
65 and upwards..	4	2	1	1	2	1	—	1
Totals.....	76	77	31	50	51	38	11	7

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the 145 cases notified, 76 occurred between the ages of 20 and 45 years, 34 were over 45 years of age, 18 were between the ages of 15 and 20, and 17 cases were under 15 years of age. There were 88 deaths during the year from Tuberculosis of the Lungs as compared with 77 in 1927. Of these 88 fatal cases, 50 were males and 38 females. The death-rate was .70 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for 1927 was .62.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

69 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 25 in males and 44 in females.

The number of deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis was 19 as compared with 28 in 1927. The death-rate was therefore .14 per 1,000 of the population in 1928, .22 in 1927, .18 in 1926 and .20 in 1925.

11 of the fatal cases were amongst children under 15 years of age

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1928, was :—

Pulmonary	{	Males	399
		Females	341
Non-Pulmonary	{	Males	208
		Females	240

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during 1928 under these Regulations which relate to tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1928 under this Section of the Public Health Act, 1925, which relates to the compulsory removal of cases to Hospital.

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health or Chief (Administrative) Tuberculosis Officer during the period from the 1st January 1928, to the 28th December, 1928, otherwise than by notification on Form A or Form B under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.

Age Periods.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards.	Total Cases.
Pulmonary Males.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
" Females.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	5
Non-Pulmonary Males..	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	6
" Females..	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	6

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Death Returns.....	6	9
" Inward " Transfers	2	3
Forms C and D.....	-	-
Other Sources.....	-	-

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Each case notified as Tuberculosis is visited by one of your Health Visitors who inquires into the home conditions of the case and ascertains what treatment the patient's doctor has recommended. During the year 1,397 visits were thus paid to the homes of cases of Tuberculosis. Facilities for the examination and supervision of cases have been provided by your Health Committee at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport. Cases are sent by their own Doctors to the Dispensary for purposes of consultation, observation, classification and supervision. The Dispensary thus fulfils the functions of a Central Information Bureau and of a Central Clearing House for tuberculosis cases in the area.

I am indebted to Dr. H. Richmond, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and to the Dispensary Staff for the following information with regard to the work at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during 1928 :—

STOCKPORT TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of Patients.

The total number of patients attending the Dispensary during the year was 932 and the total of attendances made was 2,676. Owing to an increase in the number of available beds at Sanatoria, etc., it has been found possible, practically, to dispense with the list of cases awaiting admission to such Institutions, but the need for additional accommodation for patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has been felt from time to time during the year.

261 new patients were dealt with during the year. 88 of these cases were children under 15 years of age, 169 were civilians and 4 were discharged soldiers.

<i>Nature of Disease.</i>	<i>Discharged</i>		<i>Civilians.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Soldiers.</i>			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	2	..	87	.. 89
Bronchitis, &c.....	2	..	150	.. 152
Tuberculosis of Bones, Joints and Skin.....	—	..	10	.. 10
Tubercular Glands.....	—	..	7	.. 7
Other Diseases.....	—	..	3	.. 3
	—		—	—
Totals.....	4	..	257	.. 261
	—		—	—

Bacteriological Examinations.

Specimens of Sputa are examined for Tubercle Bacilli at the Dispensary by Dr. Richmond, and reports of the results of these examinations are sent to the doctors concerned.

The following Chart shows the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 10,000 of the Population in England and Wales and Stockport, (1903-1928)



England and Wales in Red.

Stockport in Black.

During the year, 589 specimens were thus examined and of these 95 were positive and 494 were negative.

Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.

Institutional provision for cases of Tuberculosis in Stockport patients is referred to on page 26 of this report.

Whitehill Hospital has been in use for Tuberculosis cases throughout the year.

The following table sets forth the number of cases of Tuberculosis dealt with at Whitehill Hospital :—

Number of patients in Hospital on December 31st, 1927.....	15
" " admitted during 1928.....	108
" " discharged during 1928.....	93
" " died during 1928.....	12
" " remaining in Hospital on December 31st, 1928	18

The routine work of Whitehill Hospital has been ably carried out during the year by all the members of the Staff.

During the year, the Members of your Sanatoria Sub-Committee paid several visits to Whitehill Hospital and expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the arrangements made for the comfort and treatment of the patients.

Co-operation.

Close co-operation is secured between the Tuberculosis Service and the other Medical Services of the Corporation, and also between the Dispensary and the general and special Hospitals in the area. Your Medical Officer of Health is also Chief Tuberculosis Officer. Your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Home visiting of cases is carried out by your Health Visitors. Cases are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by the Assistant School Medical Officers, by the Medical Practitioners in the town, and by the authorities of the other Hospitals in the neighbourhood. The services of your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer are available for purposes of consultation with his medical colleagues.

Contacts.

Your Health Visitors, when visiting the homes of patients suffering from Tuberculosis, make enquiries as to the number of "contacts" in the family, their ages and their general state of health. Facilities are offered whereby contacts can attend at the Dispensary for examination by Dr. Richmond and, when necessary, these cases are kept under observation at the Dispensary. Patients and their families are beginning to realise the importance of this examination and it is hoped that there will be an increasing number who will take advantage of the facilities provided for them.

During the year 12 contacts were examined among whom one doubtful case of tuberculosis was discovered.

X-Rays.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Management of the Stockport Infirmary for X-rays examinations to be made of cases sent by your Tuberculosis Officers at a cost of 10/6 per examination.

Skiagrams are of great value to your Tuberculosis Officers in the diagnosis of early and doubtful cases of Tuberculosis, and also in assessing the results of treatment at Sanatoria, &c. It is essential that a definite diagnosis be made as early as possible in every case and your Sanatoria Sub-Committee have approved the more extensive use of X-Rays examinations for this purpose.

Dental Treatment.

Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Authorities of the Meathop Sanatorium for Dental Treatment to be available for Stockport patients in that Institution. Financial assistance has been given by your Health Committee for Dental Treatment of Stockport patients when recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers.

Extra Nourishment.

Arrangements are made for the supply of extra nourishment, e.g., Milk, Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, Malt and Oil, etc., to necessitous cases.

After-Care.

No special organisation exists locally for finding employment for patients nor are any arrangements in force for the supply and supervision of shelters at the homes of patients.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The arrangements made in the previous year whereby cases of crippling due to Tuberculosis are treated at the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary have been continued during 1928.

The following is a summary of the work of this Department during 1928 :—

39	Cases treated.
121	Out-patient attendances made.
13	{ Attendances for Massage.
	{ Attendances for medical exercises.
16	In-patient days.
10	X-Ray examinations.
909	Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers are dealt with at the Stockport Infirmary by Mr. E. S. Brentnall, Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon, and the administrative arrangements have been made by Mr. Pearce, Secretary-Superintendent of the Infirmary.

In connection with the scheme valuable financial assistance has been given by the Trustees of the late Miss Maria Leigh in defraying the whole or part of the cost of surgical appliances in necessitous cases.

Patients requiring prolonged Hospital treatment have been sent to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Oswestry, when beds have been available, and in this connection I have to thank the Trustees of the George Fearn Trust for financial assistance in certain cases which have been referred to them.

Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Arrangements have been made under the Orthopaedic Scheme at Stockport Infirmary for cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers to receive this special form of treatment at a charge of 1/6 per treatment. The treatment is under the supervision of a Medical Officer with special experience in this work—a necessary precaution in view of the weakly and debilitated condition of some of the patients recommended from the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

TABLE I.

Annual Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1928.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	42	36	3	4	—	7	2	9	42	43	5	13
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	12	7	19
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	24	20	17
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	4
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as												
(a) Cured.....	1	2	—	2	4	3	1	—	5	5	1	2
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75	63	72	93
D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st :—												
(a) Diagnosis completed....	164	126	12	17	19	27	44	33	183	153	56	50
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	13	3	9

1. Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st	658
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned.....	13
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"...	74
4. Died during the year.....	55
5. Number of observation cases under A (b) and B (b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months.....	22
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts).....	2676
7. Number of attendances of Non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Out-stations for treatment or supervision.....	1053
8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for	
(a) "Light" treatment.....	490
(b) Other special forms of treatment.....	160
9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary.....	4
10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners :—	
(a) At Homes of Applicants.....	21
(b) Otherwise.....	44
11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes.....	8
12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes.....	1397
13. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined.....(Total)	*589
*Including 60 Outside Cases and 63 Observation Cases.	
(b) X-Ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work..	147
14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register 31st December.....	331
15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December.....	43
16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons :—	
(a) Form G.P. 17.....	5
(b) Form G.P. 36.....	39

TABLE II.—RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Average Number of Beds available for Patients during the year 1928.

	<i>Observation.</i>	<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
		<i>"Sanatorium" Beds.</i>	<i>"Hospital" Beds.</i>	<i>Disease of Bones and Joints.</i>	<i>Other Conditions.</i>	
Adult Males.....	—	23	9	—	—	32
Adult Females.....	—	14	17	2	—	33
Children under 15....	—	—	—	3	—	3
Total.....	—	37	26	5	—	68

(B) Annual Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment during the year 1928.

		<i>In Institutions on Jan. 1.</i>	<i>Admitted during the year.</i>	<i>Discharged during the year.</i>	<i>Died in the Institutions.</i>	<i>In Institutions on Dec. 31.</i>
Number of Patients	Adults M	24	85	73	10	26
	Adults F	20	66	52	6	28
	Children M	2	6	6	—	2
	Children F	3	11	8	1	5
Number of Observation Cases	Adults M	—	7	7	—	—
	Adults F	—	6	6	—	—
	Children M	—	—	—	—	—
	Children F	1	4	4	—	1
	Total.....	50	185	156	17	62

TABLE III.

Annual Return showing the immediate results of treatment of patients and of observation of doubtful cases discharged from Residential Institutions during the year 1928.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.			Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.												
Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. Plus Group 1	Class T.B. Plus Group 2			Under 3 months.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months			Total
					M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Class T.B. Plus Group 3	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	10	11	6	10	3	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	48		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
	Bones & Joints	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	3	2	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	10		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Abdominal	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	17	6	—	7	3	—	2	5	1	3	—	—	44		
		No material improvement.	6	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10		
		Died in Institution.....	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6		
	Other Organs	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	1	3	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	13		
		No material improvement.	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4		
		Died in Institution.....	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8		
Peripheral Glands	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	5			
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1			
Observation for purposes of diagnosis	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1			
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.			2-4 weeks.			More than 4 weeks.								
		M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M		F	Ch.			
		Tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	
		Non-tuberculous.....	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—		2	4	3	13	
		Doubtful.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	4		

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.

Discharged as cured.		M.		1	
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(a) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Annual Return showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1928, arranged according to the years in which the patient first came under Public Medical Treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis, and their classification as shown on Form A.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relate .	Previous to 1926.					1926					1927					1928				
	Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus			Total	Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus			Total	Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus			Total	Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus			Total
		Group 1	Group 2	Group 3			Group 1	Group 2	Group 3			Group 1	Group 2	Group 3			Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	
Discharged as cured.	M.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	9	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	6	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disease arrested.	M.	59	8	19	31	7	6	7	13	7	7	1	2	10	6	9	11	..	20	..
	F.	23	5	13	18	15	6	1	8	3	7	7	1	15	11	8	6	..	14	..
	M.	5	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
	CONDITION NOT ASCERTAINED DURING THE YEAR.		7	1	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	LOST SIGHT OF OR OTHERWISE REMOVED FROM DISPENSARY REGISTER.		20	3	2	5	2	3	..	3	4	2	3	..	5	4	3	3	2	8
	M.	7	..	1	8	1	5	3	8	1	..	5	3	8	3	1	5	4	10	..
	F.	1	..	5	5	..	1	1	3	1	..	7	4	11	3	1	2	2	5	..
DEAD.	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.				Previous to 1926.					1926					1927					1928				
				Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total
Discharged as cured.				M.	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				M.	..	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disease arrested.				M.	..	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				M.	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disease not arrested.				M.	1	1	6	3	2	1	..	..	3	4	1	1	..	6	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	1	1	8	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	7	..	..	..	..	..
				M.	4	5	3	22	1	5	1	7	14	4	4	..	5	13	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	6	8	2	23	1	2	..	7	10	3	..	..	4	7	..	..	..	..	..
CONDITION NOT ASCERTAINED DURING THE YEAR.				..	..	..	12	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
LOST SIGHT OF OR OTHERWISE REMOVED FROM DISPENSARY REGISTER.				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
DEAD.				M.	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
				M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
				F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals				13	21	36	26	96	4	8	1	14	27	11	9	7	9	36	..	..	..	..	..

(b) **NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.**—Annual Return showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1928, arranged according to the years in which the patient first came under Public Medical Treatment, and their classification as shown on Form A.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.	Previous to 1926.					1926					1927					1928				
	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total
Discharged as cured.	M.	1	..	3	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	3	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	..	3	1	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disease arrested.	M.	1	..	1	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	..	..	2	2	4	..	1	2	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	3	1	..	2	6	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Disease not arrested.	M.	1	1	3	1	6	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	1
	F.	1	1	4	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	4	4	2	..	1	7
	M.	2	2	1	6	11	1	4	5	10	3	4	..	3	10	..	4	..	1	5
	F.	3	4	3	2	12	1	..	3	4	7	..	..	4	7	..	2	1	5	8
CONDITION NOT ASCERTAINED DURING THE YEAR.																				
LOST SIGHT OF OR OTHERWISE REMOVED FROM DISPENSARY REGISTER.																				
DEAD.	M.	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1
	F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	M.	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals		14	23	36	26	99	5	8	1	15	20	11	0	5	0	30	4	0	5	0

PART IV.

Venereal Diseases.

Venereal Diseases.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Venereal Diseases in Stockport is under the control of a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee. Your Medical Officer of Health is Administrative Venereal Diseases Medical Officer, and Dr. W. J. S. Reid is Clinical Venereal Diseases Medical Officer, in full charge of the clinical work at all the Clinics. Dr. H. Richmond has continued to assist in the administrative and clinical work at all the Clinics, and Dr. Jean M. Mackintosh has attended and assisted at the women's Clinic.

The number of Clinics has been reduced from four weekly to three as from 1st March, 1928. So far it has not been possible to dispose with the Clinic for males which is held on Friday mornings. Several patients in attendance at that time would be unable to come on Tuesday evenings, and the numbers in regular attendance at the Tuesday evening Clinic have become so large that much inconvenience would be caused if only one Clinic were available for male patients.

There are no signs of any marked diminution in the number of patients seeking treatment at the Clinics, but a highly satisfactory feature of the work is the increasing number of patients who persevere with treatment and attend at the Clinics regularly until discharged by Dr. Reid.

As in previous years, Nurse Smith has assisted at the Clinic for females, and Mr. Lees, Male Orderly, has been in attendance at the Clinics for males. On 21st and 22nd March, 1928, a visit of inspection was paid by Dr. Quine, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Ministry of Health.

Borough Dispensary.

Three Clinics are held weekly as follows :—

MALES :	Tuesday Evenings :	5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.
	Friday Mornings :	10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
FEMALES :	Thursday Evenings	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

In addition to the above Clinics the Centre is open for the Irrigation of cases of Gonorrhoea at the following times :—

MALES :	Wednesday } 5-30 to 7-30 p.m.
	Saturday }
FEMALES :	By arrangement.

468 persons, of whom 319 were males and 149 females, attended for treatment during the year, making a total number of attendances of 6534.

In addition to the above, 68 new Stockport patients attended approved Treatment Centres in other towns, making a total number of attendances of 974.

During the year 438 specimens of blood in respect of Stockport patients were examined for the Wassermann Reaction at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and elsewhere.

176 examinations for the detection of Gonococci were made at the Borough Dispensary ; and 50 for the detection of Gonococci, and one for the detection of Spirochetes, in respect of Stockport patients were carried out at other Centres.

The following tables, compiled from Form V.D. (R) of the Ministry of Health, give the details of the treatment at the various Treatment Centres :—

TABLE OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT AT VARIOUS TREATMENT CENTRES.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester and Salford Centres.</i>
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
(A) OUT-PATIENT CLINIC :		
Attendances.....	6534	974
(B) IN-PATIENT TREATMENT :		
Number of days.....	—	71
(C) SALVARSAN SUBSTITUTES :		
Doses.....	1104	109
(D) EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL MATERIAL :		
For detection of Spirochetes.....	—	1
„ Gonococci.....	176	50
„ Wassermann Reaction.....	*365	73

* Including 208 specimens sent in by Private Practitioners and Institutions

VENEREAL DISEASE—TREATMENT.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester & Salford Centres</i>
A. Number of persons dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from Syphilis.	67	14
Soft Chancre.....	—	1
Gonorrhœa.....	82	28
Conditions other than Venereal.	56	25
Total.....	205	68
B. Number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic.....	6534	974
C. Aggregate number of “ In-Patient ” days.....	—	71
D Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given in the—		
(1) Out-Patient Clinic.....	1104	109
(2) In-Patient Department.....	—	—

The arrangements for the treatment of cases of these diseases appear to be adequate and patients continue to avail themselves of the facilities offered. The co-operation of the members of the Medical Profession in the town is sought by your Staff and assistance in the diagnosis and treatment of cases referred to your Medical Officers is readily given to the Practitioners concerned.

Apart from the Medical Staffs at the Stockport Infirmary and the Poor Law Infirmary there are four Medical Practitioners in the town qualified to receive free supplies of Arsenobenzol Compounds. During the year 1928 one case was treated by a Practitioner under this arrangement.

No action was taken during 1928 under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

Propaganda.

Your Council contributes annually to the British Social Hygiene Council which is the Central Organisation for the many and varied activities in connection with propaganda on the subject of Venereal Disease. Publicity has been given locally in the Press and by correspondence as to the times, etc., of the Clinics and for a week from 18th to 23rd June the film “ Dangers of Ignorance ” was shown publicly at The Palladium. Dr. Richmond attended on each occasion and delivered a short address on the prevention of Venereal Disease and on the dangers of ignorance. The film was exhibited commercially, but it afforded us an opportunity of carrying out propaganda work amongst the large number of people who attended, for by arrangement with the theatre management, we were permitted to distribute handbills on the subject.

PART V.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has continued to take a keen interest in the welfare of the Mothers and Babies in the town and, throughout the year under review, has pursued a definitely progressive policy in extending this very important work. The decision of the Committee of the voluntary organisation known as "The Stockport School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome" to discontinue the responsibility for the administration of the Child Welfare Centres at Churchgate House and Reddish was received with feelings of regret by all concerned. It is impossible to estimate the value of the work so faithfully and effectively carried on by that Committee of devoted ladies since 1914, and the debt of gratitude due to them from our citizens is indeed a heavy one. These ladies were the pioneers in the cause of Infant and Child Welfare in this area, and they have given their time and devoted their energies generously on behalf of the Mothers and Babies under their care. The progress made at Churchgate House and the popularity of the work undertaken by this voluntary organisation are indicated in the following particulars taken from the fourteenth Annual Report of the Stockport School of Mothers, etc., for 1927-28.

"During the first year there were 1,143 weighings of 249 children; during 1927-8 there were 5,115 weighings of 650 children, in addition to those at Reddish. During the whole period there have been over 60,000 weighings and over 30,000 examinations of children by the doctor in attendance. In addition to this child welfare work the Committee concerned opened a Day Nursery at Churchgate House during the War. This Day Nursery proved most successful and continued to play an important role until the altered factory, etc., conditions of the post-war period limited its usefulness. A Maternity Room was another development of the welfare work and this was opened in 1917. It was of great service to the mothers for three years, after which the Corporation took up the work and opened the Glebe House Maternity Home."

The Corporation have now taken over the Centres at Churchgate House and at Reddish, and it will be our endeavour to continue and to extend the important work so ably commenced by the members of the Voluntary Committee. I am glad to be able to report that the Corporation will be able to have the assistance of the ladies of the Voluntary Committee as helpers at the various Child Welfare Clinics throughout the town.

Dr. Jean M. Mackintosh, the newly appointed Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, commenced duty at Stockport on 3rd September, 1928. This appointment has made it possible to extend materially the work at the Portwood Child Welfare Centre, to undertake the work relinquished by the Voluntary Committee at Churchgate House and Reddish, and to open additional Child Welfare Centres in other parts of the town. The arrangements are now completed for the opening of new Centres at the Edgeley Wesleyan Church Schools, and at the Wycliffe Congregational Church Schools, Heaton Norris, early in January, 1929.

Notification of Births.

Under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, I have received 2,042 notifications in respect of 1,956 births. In only 1.5 per cent. of the total births was there failure to notify.

The births were notified as follows :—

By Midwives.....	1564
„ Medical Practitioners.....	385
„ Other Persons.....	93
Number of cases not notified.....	30
Total.....	2072

The total number of births registered during the same period with the District Registrars under the Births, etc., Registration Act, 1836, was 1,827. Under the Registration Act, 1836, a period of six weeks is allowed for registration to be made whereas under the Notification of Births Acts births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of their occurrence.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is calculated upon the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per thousand registered births. The rate for 1928 is 77.18 per thousand births, and is the second lowest rate on record for the County Borough. The rate for England and Wales for the corresponding period was 65, which is the lowest rate on record for the Country as a whole. The following short comparative table may prove of interest :—

	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Stockport.....	77.18	77.4	81.9	97.2	87.3
107 Great Towns.....	70	71	*73	*79	*80
England and Wales.....	65	69	70	75	75

(* 105 Towns)

The Nett Births and Nett Infantile Deaths with reference to sex, legitimacy and illegitimacy are given below :—

		M.	F.	Total.
Nett Births in the year	{ Legitimate	924	832	1756
	{ Illegitimate	40	31	71
				1827
		M.	F.	Total.
Nett Deaths in the year of	{ Legitimate			
	{ Infants	79	55	*134
	{ Illegitimate			
	{ Infants	1	5	6
				140

(* This number includes one female child found dead in the River Mersey.)

Details of the Infantile Deaths according to age and cause are given in the table shown on page 89. There it will be seen that the principal causes of death in 1928 were :—Prematurity, Respiratory Disease, Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus, and Congenital Malformations. The number of deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia was 32, which was nearly double the figure (18) for 1927. The majority of the Infantile Deaths fall under three groups :—

Congenital malformations, prematurity, atrophy, debility, and marasmus.....	61
Diarrhoea, enteritis, and convulsions.....	19
Respiratory and tubercular diseases.....	37

Still-Births.

Information as to the occurrence of Still-Births was previously obtained from Midwives, from Cemetery Registrars, and from the Health Visitors. Under the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926, which came into operation on 1st July, 1927, the birth of a still-born child must be registered with the district registrar. During 1928 arrangements were made by your Health Committee for the District Registrars to include still-births in the weekly returns which they furnish to the Medical Officer of Health. These arrangements, which have been in operation since September, 1928, have facilitated the work of the Department and will ensure greater accuracy. During 1928, 110 still-born children were buried within the Borough. In accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives Board 26 still-births were notified to the Health Department by midwives during the year.

Maternal Mortality.

The number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child-birth during 1928 was 11. The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was therefore 5.6.

The causes of death were as follows :—

Puerperal Fever.....	3
Ante-partum Haemorrhage.....	1
Post-partum Haemorrhage.....	2
Eclampsia.....	1
Other Causes.....	4
	—
Total.....	11
	—

The rate of Maternal Mortality throughout the country has remained at a constantly high level in spite of the various measures which have been undertaken with a view to its reduction. Its rate has not participated in the fall in the Infantile Mortality rate which has been so marked a feature during the past twenty years. This high rate of Maternal Mortality is a serious national question and is receiving the special attention of the Ministry of Health and of local authorities.

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1928. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified.....	39	9	7	7	62	23	16	20	19	140
	Uncertified....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
{	Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chickenpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
	Scarlet Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
	Whooping Cough.....	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	..	1	7
	Diphtheria and Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Erysipelas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Phthisis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
	Tuberculous Meningitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
{	Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Other Tuberculous diseases.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
	Convulsions.....	3	1	..	..	4	1	1	3	2	11
	Laryngitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis.....	1	..	..	1	2	5	2	3	1	13
	Pneumonia (all forms).	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	6	8	19
{	Diarrhoea.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Enteritis.....	..	1	..	..	1	4	1	1	..	7
	Gastritis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis.....	1	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	4
	Rickets.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Suffocation, overlying..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Injury at birth.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	Atelectasis.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{	Congenital Malformations.....	6	3	..	..	9	2	1	1	..	13
	Premature Birth.....	21	4	3	1	29	4	..	1	..	34
	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.....	3	..	3	4	10	2	1	..	1	14
	Other causes.....	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	4
Totals.....		39	9	7	7	62	23	17	20	19	141

Such measures as extension of Ante-natal care, an improved midwifery service, Maternity Homes, Hospital accommodation for complicated cases, and facilities for efficient isolation and treatment of cases of Puerperal Fever have proved of value and must be continued. There is an urgent need, however, for further research into the various causes, direct and indirect, of maternal mortality and morbidity. This need has been emphasised by Dame Janet Campbell, Senior Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare, in her reports entitled "Maternal Mortality" and "The Protection of Motherhood."

During the year the matter has received the special attention of the Minister of Health who has set up at the Ministry of Health a Maternal Mortality Committee. This Committee has drawn up a form of inquiry for the guidance of Medical Officers of Health in their investigations of all cases of Maternal Deaths.

The local arrangements for these investigations have been in operation since October, 1928, and I would take this opportunity of thanking my medical colleagues in the town for their co-operation and Dr. Mackintosh, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, for her invaluable help in preparing the reports.

The reports thus submitted to the Maternal Mortality Committee are necessarily confidential, but I feel sure that the information thus obtained from all parts of the country will enable effective measures to be taken substantially to reduce the rate of Maternal Mortality and to lessen the amount of invalidism consequent upon child-bearing.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Prior to 1st October, 1926, only cases of Puerperal Fever were compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health.

On and after that date cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia became notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health of the district within which the place of residence of the patient was situated at the date of notification, under the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926.

During the year under review The Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Amendment Regulations, 1928, made by the Minister of Health came into operation on 1st July, 1928. These new Regulations provide that notifications are required to be sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the patient is actually living at the time of notification.

Under these regulations 22 notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia and 10 notifications of Puerperal Fever were received. Three of the cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were subsequently notified as Puerperal Fever so that in all there were 19 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 10 cases of Puerperal Fever.

7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 3 cases of Puerperal Fever were treated in their own homes. The other cases received institutional treatment. 3 of the cases of Puerperal Fever proved fatal.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

During the year under review The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Amendment Regulations, 1928, were made by the Minister of Health and came into operation on 1st July, 1928. These new Regulations provide that notifications are required to be sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the patient is actually living at the time of notification.

26 cases were notified during 1928, as compared with 27 cases in 1927. 17 of these cases were reported to the Matron of the Barnsley Home who arranged for one of her District Nurses to visit each case and give treatment at the patient's own home.

The following table gives particulars of the cases notified during the year :—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1928.

<i>Cases</i>			<i>Vision un- impaired.</i>	<i>Vision im- paired.</i>	<i>Total Blind- ness.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Treated.</i>					
	<i>At Home.</i>	<i>In Hospital.</i>				
26	17	9	25	—	—	*1

(* This child died on 7th day, the cause of death being prematurity).

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Although this disease was not compulsorily notifiable in the County Borough at any time during 1928, information as to the occurrence of 43 cases was given to your Medical Officer of Health by midwives and doctors during the year. The cases were mostly of mild type, occurred sporadically throughout the town and showed no definite seasonal incidence.

	<i>Cases.</i>
February.....	7
March.....	8
April.....	5
May.....	3
June.....	4
July.....	1
August.....	1
September.....	2
October.....	1
November.....	5
December.....	6
	—
Total.....	43
	—

This total represents an increase of 6 over the number of cases reported in 1927. Prior to the epidemic of this disease in 1926 it was rare for Midwives to report to the Department cases of suspicious "spots" in newly-born children with the result that some delay occurred before preventive measures could be put into operation. There is reason to believe that, as the result of the lessons taught by the epidemic of 1926, the Midwives are now more fully alive to the importance of taking immediate action in summoning medical aid and in reporting without delay to the Health Department all suspicious cases. Immediately the diagnosis is confirmed, the Midwife ceases attendance upon the case and is sent to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection of her person and equipment. The mother and baby are attended by one of the Nurses on the Staff of the District Nursing Association by arrangement with the Matron of the Barnsley Home. During the year 2 cases occurred, aged 5 days and 14 days respectively, in which Pemphigus was given as the principal cause of death, and in one case, aged 3 weeks, it was mentioned as a subsidiary cause. The receipt of early information as to the occurrence of cases and the prompt measures of disinfection have helped considerably to limit the spread of the disease, and in the successful treatment of the cases the Matron and Nurses of the District Nursing Association have played an important part.

The Work of the Health Visitors.

Your Council employs eight Health Visitors who have carried out in 1928 a very heavy programme of work with marked success.

The duties of a Health Visitor are of a very exacting and arduous nature, necessitating as they do qualities of consummate tact and professional skill in the handling of the mothers and babies.

In a modern Health Department the duties of a Health Visitor are many and various, but her district visitation to the homes of the patients remains her most important sphere of usefulness.

The ever-increasing demands made upon the Health Visitors by the constantly widening scope of the work of the Health Department in the supervision of personal hygiene have called for a more highly specialised training in candidates for Health Visitors' appointments, and Local Authorities are beginning to realise the necessity for more adequate remuneration and better terms of service to be offered if they are to secure adequately trained Nurses for this important work. Nurse Jones, your Senior Health Visitor, and Nurse Morley, have been successful in obtaining the new Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. During the year Nurse Morley resigned her appointment and her place has been filled temporarily by Nurse Surrell.

Your Health Visitors have visited the homes of all babies upon receipt of the birth notification. On these occasions they give practical advice and assistance to the mother on the proper rearing of her baby, and, in addition, they take advantage of the opportunity to spread the knowledge of personal and domestic hygiene which plays such an important part in promoting Infant Welfare and Public Health.

In 1928, 10,290 visits were paid to the homes of the people. Of these, 1,979 were first visits and 8,311 were re-visits. In addition, 505 visits were paid to expectant mothers during the year ; of that number 292 were first visits and 213 re-visits. The importance of sound advice being tendered to the expectant mother cannot be over-estimated.

Your Health Visitors have also paid 4,743 visits to children between the ages of one and five years. The work of supervision of the child's health begun in the early months of his life is thus consolidated and extended to cover the pre-school period. The Health Visitors also attend in rotation at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres where they have further opportunities of helping the mothers with advice and practical help in the various aspects of Infant Hygiene. During 1928 the number of attendances in this connection was 1,045.

148 Lectures on Infant Hygiene were given by the Health Visitors during the year to the elder girls in attendance at the Public Elementary Schools. In 1927, 69 lectures were thus given. These lectures have been a feature of the work in Stockport for many years, and several mothers now attending our Child Welfare Centres received their first lessons in Infant Hygiene when they were pupils in our Elementary Schools.

The supervision of Midwives is now undertaken by Dr. Mackintosh, but 126 visits were paid to Midwives by your Health Visitors in 1928. In addition, visits of inspection by the Health Visitors are paid in cases of Infantile Deaths, Still-births, cases of non-notifiable Infectious Diseases, (e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken-pox, etc.), cases of Tuberculosis, and female Out-workers.

The work of the Health Visitors, with the exception of their work under the Tuberculosis Scheme, is summarised thus :—

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS, 1928.

Total number of houses visited.....	17641
First Visits to Births.....	1979
Re-visits to Births.....	8311
Visits to Midwives.....	126
Visits to Outworkers.....	106
School Lectures.....	148
Visits re Deaths.....	169
Visits to Ante-natal Cases.....	505
Visits to Children, 1 to 5 years.....	4743
Attendances at Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	1045

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has re-organised and extended the facilities for Ante-natal and Child Welfare Clinics. The additional facilities thus provided for are much appreciated by the mothers who have shown their gratitude by their regular attendance at the Clinics in ever-increasing numbers. On October 1st, 1928, your Council purchased the premises at Churchgate House and at Reddish from the Stockport

School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome, and the work at these Centres is being consolidated and extended. Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has also successfully negotiated with the Church Authorities for the renting of premises at the Edgeley Wesleyan Church Schools and the Wycliffe Congregational Church Schools for Child Welfare purposes. These new Centres were opened during the first week in January, 1929, and the revised Time Table of Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics is as follows :—

TIME TABLE OF CLINICS.

(1) AT CHURCHGATE HOUSE :—

(1)	For Mothers	..	Thursdays	10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
(2)	For Infants	..	Mondays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
(3)	Do.	..	Wednesdays	10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

(2) AT 125, GREAT PORTWOOD STREET :—

(1)	For Mothers	..	Mondays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
(2)	For Infants	..	Tuesdays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
(3)	Do.	..	Fridays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.

(3) AT REDDISH CENTRE, STANHOPE STREET :—

(1)	For Infants	..	Mondays	10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
(2)	Do.	..	Thursdays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.

(4) AT EDGELEY WESLEYAN SCHOOL :—

(1)	For Mothers	..	Tuesdays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
(2)	For Infants	..	Wednesdays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.

(5) AT WYCLIFFE CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL :—

(1)	For Infants	..	Fridays	2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
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In addition, the Ante-natal Clinic for mothers seeking admission to the Maternity Home is held weekly, at Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital, on Tuesdays from 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. Cases recommended by the Medical Officers for Massage, attend for that purpose at Churchgate House on Monday and Friday mornings and on Wednesday afternoons.

The results of the extension of the Clinic facilities thus carried out by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have been highly satisfactory, as the following particulars show :—

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES :—

	<i>New Cases.</i>		<i>Total Weighings.</i>
January, 1928.....	77	..	1078
January, 1929.....	149	..	1284

EDGELEY WELFARE CENTRE :—

	<i>No. of New Cases which had never previously attended a Welfare Centre.</i>		<i>No. of Cases on Register.</i>
January, 1929.....	50	..	194

WYCLIFFE WELFARE CENTRE :—

January, 1929.....	40	..	130
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The medical consultations at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics have been conducted by Dr. Richmond; Dr. Mackintosh (from 3-9-1928); Dr. Lakin (to 31-8-1928); Dr. Slater, and your Medical Officer of Health.

I would take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Lakin for his splendid work for the voluntary Committee at Churchgate House and Reddish, where he has conducted the medical consultations for many years. His pioneer work in this connection has been of great value to the community, and it is to be regretted that his services are no longer available for this work.

I am indebted to Dr. Slater, Dr. Richmond and Dr. Mackintosh for their invaluable assistance in the important work of supervision of the Health and Welfare of the Mothers and Babies.

Ante-natal Clinics.

During the greater part of 1928 the Ante-natal work was limited to one session per week at the Portwood Welfare Centre, and to one Clinic weekly at Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital. In November, 1928, an additional Ante-natal Clinic was commenced at Churchgate House, and in January, 1929, another was begun at the Edgeley Welfare Centre. These new Clinics are held weekly and are well attended. The Midwives are showing an increasing readiness to avail themselves of the facilities thus offered, and they continue to bring their patients in increasing numbers. Some Midwives bring as many as 65 per cent. of their cases. During the year, 37 per cent. of the cases attended by Midwives in the County Borough received Ante-natal care at the Clinics provided by the Corporation.

During 1928, 658 mothers attended these Clinics with a total attendance of 1388.

Child Welfare Clinics.

This important branch of our work continues to show satisfactory progress.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, 1928.

	<i>Portwood.</i>	<i>Churchgate.</i>	<i>Reddish.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
New Cases.....	468	439	183	1090
Total Weighings.....	6438	5859	2791	15088
Medical Consultations	3091	2321	1129	6541
Total Attendances...	9085	6876	3111	19072

Dr. Mackintosh reports as follows :—

“It is a gratifying feature of the work that the younger mothers in particular are realising how much regular attendance at a Welfare Centre helps them in the rearing of their children. Elementary principles of infant feeding and personal hygiene are taught and the progress of each child is carefully watched so that, with the co-operation of an interested mother, the beginnings of disease in the infant are to a large extent checked.

The following table gives the feeding of infants at 3 months of age and their condition of health .—

	BREAST-FED.		PARTIALLY BREAST-FED.		ARTIFICIALLY-FED.:	
	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.
1903 to 1907	4230 or 97.4%	.. 112 or 2.6% 4342	366 or 77.6%	.. 106 or 22.4% 472	582 or 42.8%	.. 778 or 57.2% 1360
1908 to 1912	6616 or 97.3%	.. 255 or 2.7% 6871	700 or 81.5%	.. 159 or 18.5% 859	786 or 52.6%	.. 707 or 47.4% 1493
1913 to 1917	2954 or 96.6%	.. 106 or 3.4% 3060	449 or 82.1%	.. 98 or 17.9% 547	620 or 57.9%	.. 450 or 42.1% 1070
1918 to 1922	3675 or 98%	.. 72 or 2% 3747	588 or 86.7%	.. 90 or 13.3% 678	1378 or 80.5%	.. 333 or 19.5% 1711
1923 to 1927	3552 or 98.3%	.. 62 or 1.7% 3614	431 or 89.6%	.. 50 or 10.4% 481	1828 or 80.6%	.. 439 or 19.4% 2267
1928	792 or 97.5%	.. 20 or 2.5% 812	54 or 91.5%	.. 5 or 8.5% 59	332 or 81.1%	.. 76 or 18.9% 408

The figures shewing the different methods of feeding at 3 months of age are as follows :—

BREAST-FED—63.5% PARTIALLY BREAST-FED—4.6% ARTIFICIALLY FED—31.9%

Actual treatment in the Clinics, however, is confined to the most trivial ailments and all cases of illness are referred to their own doctors. In this way mothers are often induced to seek advice from their own medical attendants at a much earlier period of the illness than they would otherwise do. Rachitic children continue to receive special attention. In this connection 1,115 special attendances were made for massage which is now given during separate sessions at Churchgate House. The arrangements thus altered have added considerably to the efficacy of the treatment, and to the comfort of those in attendance.

Owing to the rush of work at the Centres and the additional work and organisation necessary in opening the new Centres it has been impossible to give anything in the way of health talks to groups of mothers, but it is hoped that during 1929 a beginning may be made in this direction."

The members of the re-constituted Stockport Maternity and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee and the other voluntary workers have rendered valuable assistance to your staff at the various child welfare centres during the year. The members of the Voluntary Committee propose to render still further assistance to the cause of Child Welfare in Stockport by means of Mothercraft classes, and by the provision of Ante-natal outfits for expectant mothers. Their co-operation in our work is much appreciated by all concerned.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

Under this Order 160 cases were dealt with in 1928. After careful inquiry a report upon the financial circumstances of each case is presented to a Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee consisting of Councillor Mrs. Henderson, Councillor Fidler, and the Medical Officer of Health.

Number of cases dealt with.....	160
Quantities of Milk supplied :—	
Total.....	4557½ lbs.
Free.....	3980 lbs.
Half Cost.....	577½ lbs.
Total Cost.....	£348 10s. 10d.

Mothers who attend the Centres regularly with their children are supplied with Dried Milk at cost price and 8,675 lbs. of dried milk were sold in this way. The total amount of milk thus distributed free, at half price and at cost price was 13,232½ lbs.

Under the milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, applications for assistance have been confined to those relating to infants up to one year of age. Necessitous Cases amongst children from 1 to 5 years of age have been referred to the Stockport Maternity and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee who have in all cases given the requisite assistance. The Voluntary Committee have a special Milk Fund for this purpose, and I

am pleased to know that this valuable aid will be available for necessitous cases in the future provided that the necessary subscriptions are forthcoming from the public.

Crippling Defects and Orthopaedics.

In my report for 1927 I have given details of the organisation and administration of the scheme for the treatment, etc., of cases of crippling defects at the Orthopaedic Department of Stockport Infirmary under the Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. E. S. Brentnall. Great benefit accrues to crippled children from this work and full use has been made during the year of the opportunity thus offered of seeking advice and of obtaining early treatment for crippling defects. Under the Maternity and Child Welfare portion of the Council's Orthopaedic scheme the following work was undertaken :—

Number of cases treated.....	30
Out-patients attendances.....	83
Attendances for Massage.....	397
Attendances for medical exercises.....	58
Number of In-patient Days.....	70
Number of X-Ray Examinations.....	5
Attendances for Ultra Violet Rays.....	446

Supervision of Midwives.

During the year 58 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. These include 7 at the Union Hospital, one at the Union Workhouse, 11 at the Maternity Homes, and 6 Midwives who reside outside the Borough and gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. One Midwife died during the year and 3 ceased to practise.

The qualifications of the Midwives who practise within the Borough are as follows :—

Possessing Certificates from the Obstetrical Society of London.....	3
Possessing Certificates from a recognised Hospital.....	2
Having passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board.....	49
Enrolled by virtue of having been in bona-fide practice as Midwives a year prior to the passing of the Act..	4
	<hr/> 58

One Midwife attended more than 100 cases alone, and 4 Midwives attended more than 100 cases each either alone or with a medical man in attendance. 13 Midwives did not attend any cases except in co-operation with a Doctor.

The number of notifications of sending for medical assistance and the conditions for which help was required were as follows :—

Post-partum Haemorrhage....	6	Condition of Eyes.....	38
Ante-partum Haemorrhage...	12	Abortion.....	7
Adherent Membranes.....	6	Uterine Inertia.....	20
Placenta Praevia.....	2	Premature Birth.....	2
Delayed Labour.....	43	Still-birth.....	1
Obstructed Labour.....	38	Pemphigus (suspected).....	34
Ruptured Perineum.....	108	Ante-natal.....	15
Contracted Pelvis.....	10		
Mal-presentation.....	29		—
Condition of Child.....	43	Total.....	445
Condition of Mother.....	31		—

For these 445 cases in which medical aid was summoned 295 accounts were rendered by the doctors concerned, amounting to £436 3s. 0d. The sum of £98 8s. 6d. was recovered from patients for whom medical services were provided in this way.

In accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board the following notices have been received from the Midwives :—

Artificial Feeding.....	28
Still-births.....	26
Deaths occurring in practice.....	7
Liability to be a source of infection.....	20
Having laid out a dead body.....	13
	—
Total.....	94

One Midwife who had attended an infectious case received compensation for loss of practice in consequence of one day's delay in carrying out disinfection caused by a breakdown in the Disinfector.

The Stockport Midwives' Association has continued its activities in 1928.

The course of lectures arranged for the Midwives by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the Winter of 1927–28 was much appreciated, and it is hoped that a further series of lectures will be given early in 1929.

The officers of the Stockport Midwives' Association in 1928 were :—

President : Dr. N. Gebbie (Medical Officer of Health).

Chairman : Mrs. Barr.

Hon. Treasurer : Mrs. Knibb.

Hon. Secretary : Miss Whitaker.

Assistant Hon. Secretary : Miss Faulkner.

Representative Member : Mrs. G. Smith.

Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

This Act, which provides for the registration of Nursing Homes (including Maternity Homes), came into operation on July 1st, 1928. Under this Act no applications for registration were received apart from the six applications for registration of premises which had previously been registered under the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, as Maternity Homes.

MILE END HALL MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

There is accommodation at your Council's Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

The Hospital is administered by the Maternity Home Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

At the request of the Ministry of Health more adequate isolation accommodation has been provided during the year and extra staff accommodation has also been provided in a new six-roomed annexe to the Nurses' Home. Applicants for admission are interviewed by the Matron and full particulars of the financial, etc., circumstances are submitted in each case to the Maternity Home Sub-Committee, who fix the charge to be made. Only case numbers are used so that the names, etc., of the applicants are unknown to the Committee members.

The fees charged range from 30/- per week to £6 6s. 0d. per week for cases resident within the Borough, and from 5 guineas to 6 guineas per week for outside Borough patients.

The Matron, Miss B. L. Scott, and the Nursing and Domestic staffs of the Hospital have carried out their duties in commendable fashion, and the gardeners are to be congratulated on maintaining a constant supply of fresh vegetables from the Hospital garden for the use of the patients in the various Corporation Hospitals.

Nurses are trained by the Matron and her permanent staff at the Hospital for the examination in Midwifery of the Central Midwives Board, the district work being undertaken by Mrs. Barr at No. 1, Caistor Street, Stockport.

I have to thank my medical colleagues in the town for their continued interest in the Hospital and for sending cases to the Hospital for treatment.

During the year the following cases were dealt with :—

Number of mothers remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1928...	5
" " admitted during year.....	212
" " discharged during year.....	207
" " died during year.....	0
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1928..	10
<hr/>	
Number of babies remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1928.....	3
" " born during year (live births 207, still-births 9)..	216
" " discharged during year.....	193
" " died (1 aged 5 weeks).....	5
" " " (still-births).....	9
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1928..	12
<hr/>	
Number of Miscarriages.....	1
" Cases of Puerperal Fever.....	0
" " Puerperal Pyrexia.....	5
" twins born in Hospital.....	4 pairs

The Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare assists your Medical Officer of Health in the administration of the Maternity Hospital, and conducts, at the Hospital, an Ante-natal Clinic once weekly for patients desirous of seeking admission to the Hospital.

All women who have had a normal confinement and who did not require the services of their own Doctor are examined by Dr. Mackintosh prior to their discharge from the Hospital, and if they so desire they can attend for a further examination at the Clinic four weeks' later. Should any abnormality be discovered at either of these examinations they are advised to consult their own doctor without delay. There has thus been commenced in Stockport a post-natal Clinic, which it is hoped will in time have far reaching beneficial results. We hope that we shall be able to lessen to a considerable extent much of the sickness and invalidism which are the lot of so many women after confinement, and by securing early treatment for defects we hope to prevent the occurrence of serious complications.

Mile End Maternity Hospital.
Annual Statistics—Year 1928.

- (1) Number of cases in the Home on 1st January, 1928 : 5.
- (2) Number of cases admitted during 1928 : 212 (212 births, 4 pairs of twins).
- (3) Average duration of stay : 2 weeks.
- (4) Number of cases delivered by—
 - (a) Midwives : 152.
 - (b) Doctors : 60.
- (5) Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the Midwife with reasons for requiring assistance : 89.

A.—Observation.....	1	} Ante-natal : 8.
Albuminuria.....	3	
Contracted pelvis, induction.....	3	
Induction.....	1	
B.—Placenta praevia with twin pregnancy	2	} During labour : 27.
Obstructed labour.....	8	
Delayed labour.....	5	
Uterine inertia.....	8	
Contracted pelvis.....	1	
Malpresentation.....	3	
C.—Ruptured perineum.....	30		} After labour : 32.
(all requiring suture)		
Retained membrane.....	1	
Pyuria.....	1	} For Infant : 22.
D.—Inflamed eyes.....	12	
Feebleness of Infant.....	3	
Illness of Infant.....	3	
Deformity of Infant.....	2	
Spots.....	2	

- (6) Number of cases notified as—
 (a) Puerperal Fever : Nil.
 (b) Puerperal Pyrexia : 4.
 (2 Intestinal Stasis—treated medicinally ; 2 Pyelitis).
- (7) Number of cases notified as Pemphigus Neonatorum : Nil.
- (8) Number of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum with result of treatment in each case : 6. 4 Cured, 2 transferred to Manchester Eye Hospital.
- (9) Number of cases of “ Inflammation of the eyes,” however slight : 6.
- (10) Number of Infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution with reasons why they were not breast-fed :—
- | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|-----|
| Illness of Mother..... | 8 | } | 13. |
| Deformed Nipples..... | 2 | | |
| Adoption..... | 3 | | |
- (11) Number of Maternal Deaths with Causes : Nil.
- (12) Number of foetal deaths (a) still-born, and (b) within 10 days of birth and their causes :—
- (a) Still-births : 9.
- (b) Premature birth : 2.
- Infantile debility : 1.
- Medullary Haemorrhage, Atelectasis of Lungs and Convulsions : 1.

WEEKLY MEANS OF OBSERVATIONS AT THE BOROUGH METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY, STOCKPORT.

Latitude 53° 24' 12" N. Longitude 2° 9' 14" W.

Cistern of Barometer 261-56 feet and top of Raingauge 285 feet
above Mean Sea-level.

1928.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.	1928.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.
	Underground.				Underground.		
	1 Foot.	4 Feet.			1 Foot.	4 Feet.	
1st week	—	40.2	.167	27th week	56.9	53.1	.12
2nd „	—	40.5	.106	28th „	59.2	54.1	.01
3rd „	—	41.0	.107	29th „	63.1	56.1	—
4th „	—	41.5	.320	30th „	61.1	57.0	.04
5th „	—	41.5	.170	31st „	58.4	56.9	.08
6th „	—	41.0	.180	32nd „	59.1	56.1	.14
7th „	40.4	41.6	.290	33rd „	60.1	57.2	.07
8th „	40.0	42.0	—	34th „	59.1	56.8	.32
9th „	39.7	42.0	.020	35th „	58.7	57.0	.19
10th „	41.2	42.3	—	36th „	58.2	57.0	.04
11th „	37.0	42.0	.026	37th „	57.1	56.7	.03
12th „	42.7	42.0	.014	38th „	54.4	55.8	.005
13th „	43.2	42.7	.101	39th „	52.5	54.4	.04
14th „	43.3	43.2	.080	40th „	48.8	52.5	.04
15th „	46.8	44.4	.040	41st „	50.1	51.4	.28
16th „	41.4	44.5	.015	42nd „	47.2	51.0	.13
17th „	45.5	44.1	—	43rd „	48.1	51.0	.08
18th „	50.9	46.2	.015	44th „	46.8	50.1	.07
19th „	49.7	47.7	—	45th „	43.0	48.1	.01
20th „	49.6	48.0	.050	46th „	45.5	47.0	.30
21st „	47.7	48.0	.130	47th „	45.1	47.0	.23
22nd „	54.9	49.1	—	48th „	43.4	47.0	.16
23rd „	56.8	51.9	.180	49th „	41.5	46.2	.04
24th „	54.8	52.0	.190	50th „	38.8	45.0	—
25th „	54.2	52.0	.120	51st „	37.2	43.2	.08
26th „	56.2	52.9	.230	52nd „	39.0	42.6	.10

Where figures are not stated, the instruments were out of order.

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